

CONFIDENTIAL.

F.O.

(6173.)

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PART 4.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

MOROCCO.

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1891.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting Morocco.

PART 4.

No. 1.

Messrs. Head and Co. to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received January 7.)

My Lord, 85, Gracechurch Street, London, January 6, 1891.
WE are requested by the Calpean Maritime Insurance Company of Gibraltar, for whom we act as London agents, to bring under your Lordship's notice the circumstances attending the loss of the Spanish vessel "San Francisco," in the hope that through the intervention of Her Majesty's Government some compensation may be obtained from the Sultan of Morocco.

The Calpean Company make application on behalf of Messrs. Levy and Co., of Gibraltar, which firm shipped merchandize by the "San Francisco" from Gibraltar to Melilla, the bills (lading) for which are inclosed.

It appears that the vessel stranded on the Riff Coast on a sandy beach, and might easily have been got off had she not been looted and wrecked by a number of Riffian Moors.

We understand that the Spanish Government have put forward a claim against the Sultan of Morocco on behalf of the ship-owner and the crew, and it is hoped that your Lordship will take similar action on behalf of the British subjects who have suffered the loss of their goods.

A suggestion has been made that the vessel was engaged in illicit traffic, but the Calpean Company inform us that there is no foundation for this statement.

We have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY HEAD AND CO.

No. 1*.

Messrs. Head and Co. to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received January 8.)

My Lord, 85, Gracechurch Street, London, January 7, 1891.
REFERRING to our letter of yesterday, we ought to have stated that the value of the goods shipped by Messrs. Levy & Co. is 300l.

We have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY HEAD AND CO.

No. 2.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 1.)
Sir,

I INCLOSE copy of a letter from Messrs. Head and Co. relative to the Spanish vessel "San Francisco," which stranded near Melilla, and was looted and wrecked by Riffian Moors.*

* No. 1.

Messrs. Head ask for the assistance of Her Majesty's Government in obtaining compensation from the Sultan of Morocco for the goods shipped on board the "San Francisco" by Messrs. Levy and Co., of Gibraltar. The bills of lading are sent herewith, and Messrs. Head have stated in a subsequent letter that the value of the merchandize was 300l.

I have to request you to ascertain particulars as to the merits of this claim, and to report to me generally upon the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 3.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Head and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, January 10, 1891.

YOUR letters of the 6th and 7th instant have been received at this Office, and I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier has been instructed to report upon the case of the Spanish vessel "San Francisco."

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 4.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received January 13, 1891.)

(No. 91.)

My Lord,

Morocco City, December 29, 1890.

IN confirmation of my telegram of the 10th instant, I have the honour to report that I embarked at Tangier at noon on that day on Her Majesty's ship "Phaeton" for Mazagan, where I arrived and landed on the following morning under the customary honours from the local authorities.

My party consisted of my wife, daughter, Miss Barford-Hancock, Miss Scudamore, and Mr. Aleck Berens, a young artist of great promise, friends of my family; of Admiral St. John, with whom I had always, whilst he was Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar, entertained the warmest and closest relations of friendship; Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, the Vice-Consul, Interpreter of the Legation, my son and Private Secretary, Mr. John Kirby Green; Surgeon-Major Charlesworth, Lieutenant R. P. Lee, R.E., and Lieutenant H. C. Howard, 60th Rifles, these military men all accompanying me with the leave and approbation of Sir Leicester Smyth, Governor of Gibraltar.

Ascertaining from Sir Anthony Hoskins' communications to me that he was desirous that I should bring with me to the Shereefian Court Captain Custance, of Her Majesty's ship "Phaeton," as well as some of the officers of that vessel, it afforded me considerable pleasure to be able to accede to the Admiral's wishes, and Captain Custance selected Lieutenants Walsh, R.N., and Matthews, R.M.L.I., and Dr. Barry from among his officers to join my suite.

I and my whole party entered this city after a satisfactory though rather fatiguing journey of thirteen days on the 27th instant, being afforded a public reception, such as is seldom witnessed even in this country, through the fortuitous circumstance of marriage festivities of unusual splendour being in course of celebration in honour of Mulai Mehemed, the Sultan's eldest son. All the Governors of the southern provinces of this Empire, with their contingents of mounted men, were assembled, having come to the Court to convey their congratulations as well as their gifts to the Sultan, and had been ordered to parade, together with the regular troops, along the line of march, which led from my last camping place in the vicinity of the city to the Maïmounia Kiosk, the residence which had been assigned for my abode in the Shereefian city, as on the occasion of my last visit to Morocco.

Immediately on my arrival I was visited by the Sultan's Chamberlains and by Cid Emfadi Gharnit, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who offered me, on behalf of His Shereefian Majesty, a most cordial welcome.

As is customary, to-day, being the third morning after my arrival, I, together

with the whole of my suite, was afforded a public audience with the Sultan, at which I presented to His Majesty all the naval and military officers and members of my Legation.

Mulai Hassan was most marked in the gracious manner in which he received me, and evidently, under the wish to show the concurrence of functionaries and others who had been called together to the ceremony the continued existence of the traditional friendship between England and Morocco, he held me in conversation for upwards of fifty minutes. The Sultan asked repeatedly after the Queen's health, and stated that he had not announced to Her Majesty the marriage of his son, as it was an event to which he did not wish to attach great importance. Mulai Hassan also expressed himself in most friendly and well-disposed terms towards Her Majesty's Government.

To-morrow, I understand, I am to see His Majesty in a less formal manner, together with my suite, in his Palace, in order to enable His Majesty, before Admiral St. John, Captain Custance, and his officers leave me, which they are obliged to do almost immediately, to converse with them in a less ceremonious manner. Mulai Hassan is always most desirous to enlighten himself by conversation with distinguished persons and officers, being at the same time doubtless aware that his courteous behaviour and bearing favourably impress his visitors.

I do not purpose commencing the negotiation of any of the pending matters with the Shereefian Government which have been the cause of my coming to Morocco City until the current marriage festivities have terminated; but I must prepare your Lordship, notwithstanding the gracious assurances showered upon me by the Moorish authorities, to find that my way will not be altogether devoid of obstacles and difficulties, though I shall endeavour to avoid leaving this place entirely empty-handed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 5.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received January 13, 1891.)

(No. 92.)

My Lord,

Morocco City, December 30, 1890.

THIS morning I had the honour of being received by the Sultan for the purpose of presenting to him in a private and friendly manner the whole of the gentlemen forming my suite. The Sultan, as usual with him, received us with extreme affability, and after the presentations were over entered into private converse with me, thus allowing me to mention to His Majesty that, whilst ascending the Palace steps, I had met, withdrawing from the Shereefian presence, Señor Rinaldi, the First Interpreter of the Spanish Legation at Tangier, who had arrived a few days ago, charged with a special mission from Señor Figuera.

Mulai Hassan informed me that M. Rinaldi had come to Morocco on matters connected with the late incidents at Melilla and the seizure of the smuggling craft near Alhacemas. I observed to His Majesty that I hoped, if M. Rinaldi was merely calling for the prompt payment of the very small indemnities which were being claimed by Spain concerning these matters, and which I understood did not exceed 12,000 dollars, and for the carrying out of the other reparation agreed upon between His Majesty and Señor Figuera at Rabat last autumn, there would be no hesitation on His Majesty's part in complying with the Spanish Agent's demands.

Mulai Hassan said that no loss had really been inflicted upon the Spaniards at Melilla, and that the smuggling transaction should never have received the support and countenance of the Spanish Government. I pointed out to His Majesty the danger he would be incurring if he attempted to reopen a matter which the Spanish Government had represented to its public as already satisfactorily concluded, and that if His Majesty wished to prevent a precedent being created of too easily accepting unjust demands, he could easily safeguard himself by accompanying the settlement of the claims pressed by M. Rinaldi by a written statement of the position which the Shereefian Government could in strict justice have assumed, though it preferred to forfeit its rights rather than displease a friendly and neighbouring Power.

The Sultan promised to be guided by my advice; yet until the matter is really terminated, I feel that your Lordship must be prepared to learn that His Majesty's

hesitations are still existent, though it is certain that they will never lead him to refuse in a categorical manner acquiescence in the Spanish demands.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 6.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received January 17.)

(No. 1.)
(Telegraphic.) P. Morocco City, January 8, 1891.

MY despatch to your Lordship No. 92 of the 30th December last.
The interpreter of the Spanish Legation has obtained from the Sultan the acceptance of all his demands, and will start on his return journey to Tangier in a few days, the bearer of Shereefian letters ordering the required indemnities to be paid and the Spanish flag to be saluted.

No. 7.

Aborigines Protection Society to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received January 24.)

My Lord, Broadway Chambers, Westminster, January 23, 1891.
I HAVE the honour, by the direction of the Committee of the Aborigines Protection Society, to address your Lordship with reference to certain evils incident to the system of Consular protection now in force in Morocco.

A member of our Committee, Mr. Henry Gurney, has recently returned from a journey along the coast of Morocco, and inland as far as Morocco city, which he made, accompanied by Mr. Donald Mackenzie, in order to inquire into the working of this system; and the many and grievous abuses that came under their notice warrant, in the opinion of our Committee, an appeal to Her Majesty's Government, to take steps with a view to effecting an improvement in the condition of affairs.

Notwithstanding the care exercised by the Representatives of Great Britain and some other foreign Powers in granting protection to natives of Morocco ostensibly in their service, it is manifest that the privileges thus accorded are frequently and grossly perverted from the reasonable purposes contemplated in the arrangement under which they were obtained. A large number of Moors, Jews, and others, not satisfied with the exemption from taxation and military service, and other advantages they enjoy under the protection of European Consuls, find themselves in a position to extort money from their neighbours, and to make merciless use of the inadequate and corrupt machinery of local government in enforcing their unjust demands. From information we have received through reliable sources, we have reason to believe, moreover, the cases are numerous in which claims for debt and other alleged liabilities are made out under false and forged papers.

Unless these abuses are promptly removed, there is great danger of the unprotected natives, who are the victims of the rapacity of Moorish officials, as well as of their own countrymen under the protection of foreign flags, being exasperated, not only against their oppressors, but also against the Europeans in Morocco.

The fact that it is found impossible to prevent these protégés from holding and trading in slaves in the interior is a further reason for the reform which our Committee earnestly desires.

As by far the largest part of the trade of Morocco is carried on with England, and under English direction, our Committee ventures to urge that the duty of endeavouring to establish a more humane and equitable state of affairs than now prevails is one that especially devolves on Her Majesty's Government.

I take the liberty of adding that the result of inquiries made on behalf of our Committee in various parts of Morocco is a strong and almost unanimous expression of opinion in favour of Mixed Tribunals, resembling those organized in Egypt, as the means best calculated to bring prosperity to the country, to ameliorate the condition of the natives, and to lessen and eventually put an end to evils which are a disgrace to civilization.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. R. FOX-BOURNE, Secretary.

No. 8.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 2.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1891.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 50 of the 25th June last relative to the conclusion of Commercial Conventions with Morocco, I transmit to you herewith copy of a letter from the Aborigines Protection Society,* in which the evils of the system of Consular protection are set forth. You are aware that in August 1887 the Moorish Government put forward the abuses arising out of Consular protection as a reason for declining the proposals of England, France, and Germany for the negotiation of new Commercial Treaties, and I should therefore be glad to receive your observations on the inclosed letter, with especial reference to the suggested establishment of Mixed Tribunals in Morocco similar to those which exist in Egypt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 9.

Foreign Office to Aborigines Protection Society.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1891.

YOUR letter of the 23rd instant relating to the system of Consular protection in Morocco has been laid before the Marquis of Salisbury; and I am directed by his Lordship to inform you that the matter will receive the careful attention of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 10.

Consul White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received February 5.)

(No. 1.)
My Lord,

Tangier, January 28, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that M. Rinaldi, the Interpreter of the Spanish Legation, arrived at Tangier from Morocco city on the 25th instant, having settled the question of the satisfaction to be given by the Moorish Government for the Melilla incident.

In accordance with the terms of the settlement, the Spanish flag was this afternoon saluted by the town batteries with twenty-one guns. The sum of 12,000 dollars has, I understand, already been paid into the Spanish Legation as compensation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 11.

North-West African Company to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received February 10.)

My Lord,

132, Cheapside, London, February 9, 1891.

I AM instructed by the Directors to forward to your Lordship extracts from letters received from Cape Juby by the last mail, and to make the following observations thereon:—

1. The Sultan has sent to Cape Juby the Kaïd who is responsible for the murder of the late Mr. Morris, and with him soldiers, one of whom was the miscreant who was guilty of that crime.

2. This Kaïd has instructions to stop trade at the station, which he seems to be successful in doing.

3. The various tribes of the Ait-el-Jamel have been warned against having any intercourse with the Company.

* No. 7.

4. These acts are in direct violation of the proposals made by Sir W. K. Green, and have been done whilst he is at the Court of Morocco.

The Directors are anxiously waiting for news from Sir W. K. Green, and they hope the information which is inclosed in this letter will show your Lordship how very necessary it is that a speedy settlement should be obtained.

I am, &c.
The North West African Company (Limited),
(Signed) GEO. RAYNOR, *Secretary*.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Extracts from the latest Correspondence received from Cape Juby.

January 6, 1891.—This afternoon, Abdulla Weld Ali Bibi (who was some years ago appointed Kaid of Cape Juby by order of the Sultan), his two sons and a few soldiers, all mounted, came within 2,000 yards or so of the Shore-house. El Bashir, who went to them, refused to speak to Ali Bibi himself, but told them they must go away, and they have gone to the Aftoot, about 3 miles distant. Report has it that this move is to show, on the part of Dahman, that the Sultan considers this country his own and that he can send his soldiers here if he pleases. I hear that he has some encamped two days north on the coast.

January 14.—This afternoon, armed men were observed approaching from the south. These were the same as appeared on the 6th instant—Abdulla Weld Ali Bibi and soldiers. They approached very close and sat down about 400 yards or less from the Shore-house. Mohammed Saleh (a friendly Chief) and others went out to parley with them, who after, for some unexplained reason, fired twice on Mohammed Saleh and those with him, and then took to flight, fearing an attack from us. We heard yesterday they would probably be here again to do mischief. According to Mohammed Saleh, he warned Ali Bibi to go away.

January 15.—On being asked why he did not return the soldiers' fire, Mohammed Saleh said that he did not dare to fire on the Sultan's men because of the consequences. The soldier who shot at him is reputed to be a rather bold man, by name Othman, and was one of those concerned in the murder of Morris.

January 17.—Soldiers seen near the well to-day by persons watering. An Ait-el-Hassen Chief came in to draw his allowance for this month. He says he would have come a few days ago, but was afraid of the Sultan's soldiers. If the Arabs chose, they could send the handful of men to the right-about, but they seem to dread the Sultan. It is said some traders are afraid to bring their wool because of Ali Bibi's doings.

January 20. The doings of Ali Bibi are full of meaning and cannot be passed over as insignificant. There are indications that the Sultan's power is on the increase, and the fact of his soldiers being here and none of the Arabs daring to oppose them, though they do not favour their presence, is a strong case in point. We hear from several quarters that Dahman, Governor of Wadnoon, is gone to the Sultan, in Morocco city, and before he started he told the Azzurgeens that they cannot be friends with him or considered part of Ait-el-Jamel unless they undo what they have done in Tarfaya, that it is through them that the Company established themselves here, and that they must therefore drive out the Company.

January 19.—Under this date El Bashir, Chief at Cape Juby, complains of the annoyance sustained by the tribes who are friendly to the Company, and their apprehensions that the consequence of their friendship may expose them to the Sultan's revenge, and they ask for the Company's protection against such treatment.

No. 12.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir W. K. Green.

(No. 3.)

Sir,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 83 of the 10th October last, I transmit herewith, for your information, copies of a correspondence, as marked in the margin,*

* Nos. 11 and 13.

on the subject of the claim of the North West African Company in regard to Cape Juby.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 13.

Foreign Office to North West African Company.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 13, 1891.*
I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, urging that a speedy settlement of the North West African Company's claim in regard to Captain Juby may be obtained.

In reply, I am to inform you that Sir W. Kirby Green, Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco, is still at the Shereefian Court, and that the principal object of his visit to the Sultan is to obtain a settlement of the claim in question.

A copy of your letter under reply will be forwarded to Tangier by the first opportunity.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 14.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received February 24.)

(No. 2.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Morocco City, February 13, 1891.

IT is with considerable satisfaction that I am in a position to report to your Lordship that the Sultan has undertaken to settle the claim of the North West African Company in regard to Cape Juby by the unconditional payment to the Company of 50,000*l*.

I have also obtained the conditional permission of the Sultan for the establishment of a Lloyd's signal-station at Cape Spartel.

I am reporting fully on these matters by post.

No. 15.

Foreign Office to North West African Company.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 25, 1891.*
WITH reference to my letter of the 13th instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier has reported by telegraph that the Sultan of Morocco has agreed to pay the sum of 50,000*l*. unconditionally in settlement of the claim of the North West African Company in regard to Cape Juby.

Sir W. Kirby Green adds that he is sending home by post a full Report of his proceedings.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 16.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 2.)

(No. 3.)

My Lord,

Morocco City, February 12, 1891.

YOUR Lordship is already aware that during the first audience accorded me on the 30th December last by the Sultan I informed Mulai Hassan that the principal object of my coming to his Court was to afford him such verbal explanations on the proposed settlement of the Juby difficulty as would enable His Majesty to fulfil, without further

hesitation, the promise he had given me when at Tangier to meet the wishes of Her Majesty's Government in that direction.

The Sultan at once begged me to consider the matter as already terminated, and he asked me to submit to his Minister, Cid Emfadel Gharneet, a Memorandum of the exact terms upon which the settlement of the Juby claim could be drafted. In the course of a cursory discussion of the matter which ensued, I felt it expedient to let Mulaï Hassan know that your Lordship had graciously authorized me to give way on the point of the percentage that should be levied on the yearly import trade carried on by the North-West Africa Company, that is to say, that 10 per cent. should be paid, instead of the 8 per cent. at first proposed.

After several preliminary interviews with Cid Emfadel Gharneet, I, on the 17th ultimo, submitted to him the Memorandum, copy of which is herein inclosed, and which embodies concisely the arrangement proposed by your Lordship on behalf of the North-West Africa Company.

I will not trouble your Lordship with a recital of the endless objections raised by the Sultan, through his Minister, to an arrangement which he had so repeatedly assured me would be accepted by him.

As in the matter of the Cape Spartei Lloyd's Signal Station, so in the Juby claim, I had at last to acknowledge to myself that Mulaï Hassan had ceased to be a free agent, and I could not avoid the conclusion that he had accepted the guidance of influences hostile to his adhesion to an arrangement calculated to divest Morocco in a permanent manner of all responsibility in the direction of Cape Juby.

Therefore, at the audience obtained by me the day before yesterday of the Sultan, I inquired of His Majesty what good end could be served through his invitation to me to come to an understanding with his Minister, when he constantly directed that functionary to revert to points which I had let him know distinctly could not be accepted by Her Majesty's Government.

Mulaï Hassan answered that throughout our discussions of the Juby question he had understood that your Lordship was prepared to admit his sovereignty over the locality where the English factory was situated, but that now he was surprised to find the terms of my Memorandum cast grave doubts on that sovereignty. However, he was willing to accept all conditions, provided I would allow the Moorish Government to appoint a Custom-house Commissioner to supervise the factory's trade. His Majesty asked this as he was especially anxious that the natives of the Juby district should comprehend, in an unmistakable manner, that the British factory enjoyed his good-will and protection.

Though it is quite possible Mulaï Hassan may not have been aware of the tendency of his request, I at once understood from the way in which it was brought forward by His Majesty that he was merely treading in footsteps traced for him by others. I consequently told the Sultan firmly that I regretted he had summoned me to Morocco if he simply wished me to learn that no other arrangement was open between us but that of effecting the payment of the 50,000*l.* indemnity for loss of trade originally demanded. It was made clearly evident to His Majesty by the terms proposed by me, running throughout the entire arrangement, that no interference on the part of Moorish officials could be tolerated at the British factory. I pointed out to the Sultan that the factory reserved to itself the right of exclusive trading at Cape Juby, and that the very considerations which had guided His Majesty in objecting to accept an 8 per cent. share on the mercantile operations of the Company had been held in view by your Lordship when opposing the presence of a Moorish Custom-house official at the British factory. There was no wish to open the door to a discussion as to whether or not Cape Juby had been constituted into a Moorish trading port and had thereby become available, under existing Treaty stipulations, to the commerce of all nations.

I warned the Sultan not to lose the opportunity now offered him of finally removing from between Great Britain and Morocco the irritating particle constituted by the Cape Juby factory, nor to allow himself to be influenced by the advice of my German and Italian colleagues, who were solely anxious to intrude their countrymen into a share of the commercial advantage secured by the energy and enterprise of Englishmen.

The Sultan's ignorance and vanity had been, however, I observed at once, but too successfully worked upon by Signor Gentile's criticisms of my Memorandum, which had evidently been submitted to his consideration, for my warnings to be heeded, and I foresee that Mulaï Hassan will rather pay unconditionally the indemnity of 50,000*l.* than admit that he is not Sovereign of the locality whereon the Cape Juby factory exists.

I cannot but regret that the selfish greed of the policy followed by Italy under Signor Cantagalli's guidance should thus tend to prevent the Moorish Government from availing itself of a most favourable opportunity of removing from its path the danger of Cape Juby

complications which, through the peculiar state of things around that locality, must constantly threaten to recur.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Memorandum of Terms proposed for the Settlement of the Cape Juby question, handed to Cid Emfadel Gharneet, January 17, 1891.

(Translation.)

Praise be to God!

A STATEMENT of the demands put forward by the British Government for the settlement of the Juby difficulty in a friendly way to the benefit of both parties.

1. The first condition is that the Moorish Government pay to the Company the sum of 20,000*l.* as an indemnity for past losses.

2. The second is that the Company shall pay to the Moorish Government every year 10 per cent. on the value of the merchandize imported by them to the region of Juby and there sold. This is only to be considered as an equivalent for the spiritual influence which the Sultan possesses over the inhabitants of those parts being rendered useful to the Company, he (the Sultan) abstaining from impeding the Company's trade there.

3. The third is that the Company will engage that the amount to be paid every year to the Moorish Government will not be less than 1,000*l.*

4. The fourth condition is, that the amount of merchandize imported and sold by the Company at Juby, will be ascertained by an inspection of the Company's books through the competent authority in matters of trade of Her Majesty's Government in London; and if the Sultan wishes to appoint a Representative to take part in this inspection, such Representative will be admitted.

5. The fifth condition is that the Sultan will not violate the engagements entered into in former times between the Company and the inhabitants of the place, and that the Sheikh whom they have named with the concurrence of the Company shall be respected.

6. The sixth condition is that the Company shall have the sole right of trading between Wad Draa and Cape Bojador, and the right of pre-emption over all the land situated between those two boundaries.

Finished this 17th January, 1891.

(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 17.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 2.)

(No. 5.)

My Lord,

Morocco City, February 18, 1891.

IN continuation of my despatch No. 3 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that Cid Emfadel Gharneet and Cid Hamed Kerdudi, a Secretary of the Foreign Minister, called on me late yesterday afternoon, and stated that they had been formally empowered by the Sultan to inform me that His Shereefian Majesty had elected to terminate the Cape Juby matter rather than bind himself by the terms contained in the Memorandum submitted on the 17th ultimo, by paying the whole of the indemnity of 50,000*l.* originally demanded as compensation for the loss of trade suffered by the North-West Africa Company.

Whilst congratulating the Moorish functionaries on having been the channel of bringing to a termination the long-pending matter of the Cape Juby claim, I could not avoid expressing to them my distress that Mulaï Hassan had been unable to arrive at a right appreciation of the great concessions which had been made by Her Majesty's Government in its desire to render the settlement of the question permanent. Cid Emfadel Gharneet assured me that he would place in my hands in a few days written details of the Sultan's acceptance of his liability for the 50,000*l.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 18.

North-West Africa Company to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 3.)

My Lord,
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of the communication which your Lordship has directed to be made to my Company in respect to the settlement of the claims made by us upon the Sultan of Morocco.

On behalf of my colleagues and for myself, I have to offer our grateful appreciation of all that your Lordship has done for us, and for this Settlement, which will place us in a position to continue with vigour the further development of British trade in the north-west of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE, Chairman.

No. 19.

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 3.)

(No. 3.)
(Telegraphic.) P.
THE formal written acknowledgment of the Sultan's liability for the 50,000*l.* payable to the North-West Africa Company, on account of the Cape Juby affair, has been placed in my hands, and His Majesty has intimated his desire to pay this sum in five instalments of 10,000*l.* a-year.

The discussions which I have recently had with the Moorish Government have led me to the conclusion that it would be most desirable that, having regard to the value which the coast will possess in the near future as an outlet from Central Africa to the Atlantic Ocean, Her Majesty's Government should at once make public its claim over the portion of the coast situated between Wad Draa and Cape Bojador, as otherwise some other foreign Power might shortly lay claim to it. The country in question is inhabited by the nomadic independent tribes who frequent the vicinity of Cape Juby.

No. 19*.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 3.)

(Telegraphic.)
Tangier, March 2, 1891.
IT is with profoundest grief I have to report the sudden death of Sir Kirby Green at Morocco city on the 25th February. Can man-of-war be sent at once to Mazagan to bring body and members of Mission to Tangier? They will probably arrive Mazagan to-day.

No. 20.

Foreign Office to North West Africa Company.

Sir,
Foreign Office, March 4, 1891.
WITH reference to my letter of the 25th ultimo, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that the Sultan of Morocco has stated to Her Majesty's late Minister at Tangier that it is his wish to pay the 50,000*l.* which he has agreed to pay to the North-West Africa Company as a settlement of the Cape Juby claim, in five yearly instalments of 10,000*l.* each.

Sir W. Kirby Green has also reported that the Sultan had placed in his hands an official written acknowledgment of his liability for the payment of the entire amount of 50,000*l.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 21.

Memorandum by Sir E. Hertslet on the Right of any Foreign Power to Annex the North-West Coast of Africa between Wady Draa and Cape Bojador.

THE Wady Draa is the southern limit of Morocco as recognized by Her Majesty's Government.

The Sultan of Morocco claims the right of sovereignty over territory to the south of the Wady Draa; but the claim is disputed by Her Majesty's Government. (Memorandum 12th November, 1881, Confidential, No. 4775, p. 107.)

In a note addressed by the Spanish Minister to Earl Granville on the 9th January, 1885, it was stated that the territory on the North-West Coast of Africa from Cape Blanco to Cape Bojador had been placed under Spanish protection. Confidential Print No. 5080, p. 36.

On the 1st September, 1885, Sir Joseph Lee, Chairman of the North-West African Company, declared that the territory between the Wady Draa and Cape Bojador was unclaimed by any Power, except the small portion, which formed the Company's station at Cape Juby.

The position of this strip of territory is shown in the sketch facing p. 12.

It will be observed that it is situated immediately opposite to the Canary Islands, belonging to Spain.

Sir Joseph Lee, in his letter above referred to, said that the Company's station at Cape Juby had been visited by French, German, and Spanish vessels of war, and had been tacitly recognized as a British Settlement; that schooners traded between Cape Juby and the Canary Islands; and that the Spanish authorities in those islands recognized ship's documents signed by the Company's agent at Cape Juby.

On the 6th April, 1887, a Spanish Decree was issued placing the territory over which Spain had declared a Protectorate in January 1885 between Cape Blanco and Cape Bojador under the charge of the Spanish Governor-General in the Canary Islands. No claim to any further extension of territory was then put forward by Spain. Sir C. Ford, No. 2, Africa, April 13, 1887.

Sir J. Lee stated in his letter of the 4th January, 1890, that the claim of the Company related to the seaboard of Tekna, "comprised within the limits of the Wady Draa in the north, and Cape Bojador in the south" (the strip now under consideration), but the cession made to the North-West African Company in April 1879 did not include so large an extent of the coast-line. (See Mr. Oakes' Memorandum of the 8th January, 1890, Confidential Print, 1890, p. 8.) Ibid., No. 3, Africa, April 16, 1887.

The question as to how far it would be advisable for Her Majesty's Government to obtain possession of this territory has been considered before.

In September 1885 a letter was addressed to the Colonial Office on the subject, in which it was said, "The question for their consideration is whether it would be advisable for the Crown to take over the territory in which the Company carries on its operations, as a colonial possession in connection with the Gambia or otherwise."

The Colonial Office was of opinion that such an arrangement was neither feasible nor desirable, but that the proposal to establish British jurisdiction of some sort over it deserved serious consideration, as the climate was reported to be good, and the facilities for prospects of trade were stated to be excellent, and that it might be possible to form a first-class coaling station at or near Cape Juby, capable of being defended; but the Admiralty, on being consulted, said that neither the geographical position of the coast between Cape Bojador and Wady Draa, nor the facilities for anchorage and communication with the shore, give it any value either as a coaling station, or for other naval purposes. Admiralty, February 2, 1888.

The North-West African Company were accordingly informed that insuperable difficulties existed as regarded the establishment of an effective British Protectorate over this strip of coast, the isolated position of which made it impossible to connect it with any British Colony, and would make direct Imperial control an experiment attended with no ordinary risk and expenditure.

In the event, therefore, of an attempt being made to carry out the suggestion of the late Sir W. Kirby Green, it is more than probable that objections would be offered on the part of Morocco and Spain.

With regard to Morocco, it was stated in the letter to the Colonial Office of the 17th February, 1886, that the Sultan of Morocco, who had pretensions to part of the coast on which, though they were not recognized by Great Britain, he might insist, would probably view the Protectorate with jealousy; and His Majesty would not

(Signed) E. HERTSLET.

No. 22.

I have, &c.

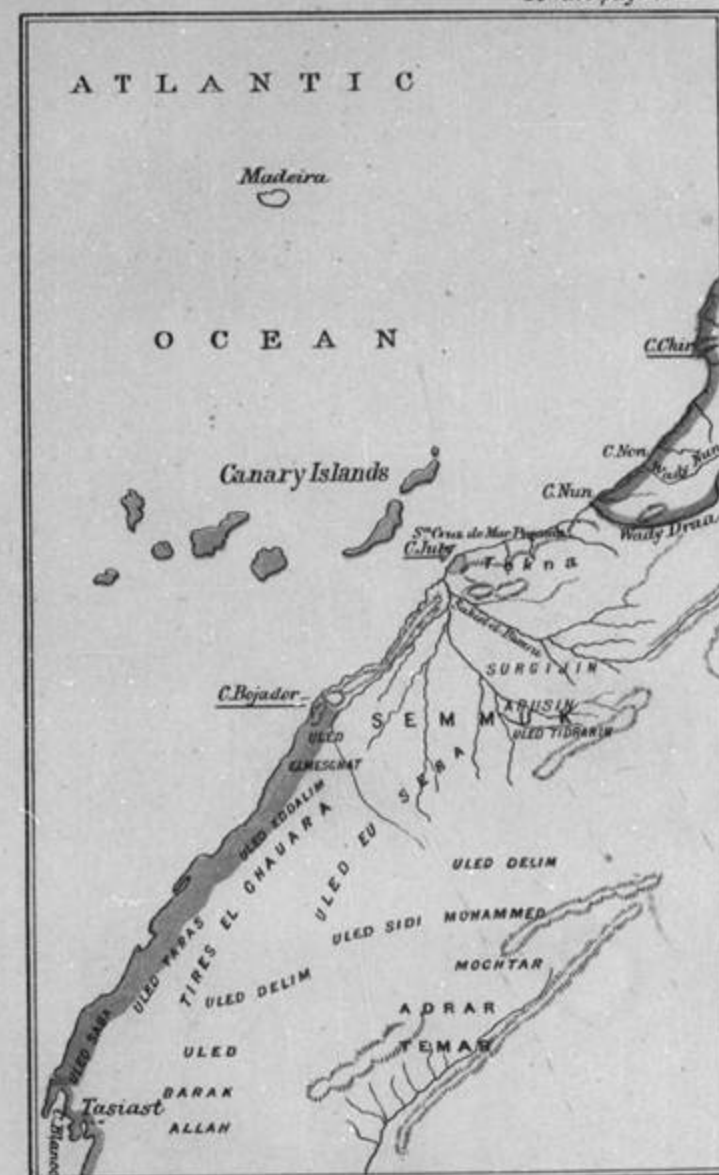
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 22*.

I propose, with your Lordship's approval, to instruct him to return.

No. 23.

IN reply to your telegram No. 4 of yesterday's date, before recalling De Vismes it would be advisable to ascertain what likelihood there is of his being able to effect a satisfactory settlement of the pending British claims.



Reference.

Moorish Territory. 124

Spanish — " — ☐

N. W. African Co's. Territory.

French Territory.....

Sir W. K. Green to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 9.)

(No. 6.)

My Lord,

Morocco City, February 21, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 3 and 5 of the 12th and 13th instant, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that no sooner had I been informed by Cid Emfadel Gharneet that the Sultan had elected to pay the 50,000*l.* demanded on behalf of the North-West Africa Company in preference to accepting the arrangement submitted by me to His Majesty, than his Excellency was directed by Mulaï Hassan, in conjunction with Cid Hamed Kerdudi, to endeavour to induce me to modify my original proposals (see Inclosure 1 in No. 3 of the 12th instant) in accordance with the draft, translation of which is herewith inclosed.

After almost interminable discussions, during which I submitted, for the Sultan's consideration, as the final concessions I was prepared to make, the proposals of which a translation is herein furnished, I received last night from Cid Emfadel Gharneet the acknowledgment, translation herewith inclosed, of the Sultan's liability for the payment of the 50,000*l.* I furnished his Excellency with a receipt for his note couched, at the Moorish Minister's request, in the terms shown by the accompanying translation.

Your Lordship will observe that throughout this interchange of documents there was a determination on the part of the Sultan, which I constantly opposed, to testify to the continued existence of the Moorish Government's claim of sovereignty, to the detriment of the Company's acquired titles, over the Cape Juby Settlement. Mulaï Hassan, simply for the purpose of vindicating his asserted rights in this direction, has now preferred to mulct himself in the larger sum of 50,000*l.* and to forego all participation in the income of the North-West Africa Company. The Embassy which the Sultan is anxious to send to England will probably endeavour to raise anew with your Lordship this matter of Maroquine sovereignty at Cape Juby, against which there is no other objection than that, if admitted, it would be at once made the pretext for foreign demands for the right to trade at Cape Juby as well as in all other parts of the Maroquine Empire.

The Sultan's vanity and desire to figure as a powerful Potentate has, I believe, been worked upon from all sides, French, Italian, and German, to make him forego the advantages so generously conceded in the arrangement offered by me, under your Lordship's sanction. The French, and possibly the Germans, are also anxious that the still unacquired strip of coast comprised between Wad Draa and Cape Bojador should, the need arising, remain available to them. Under this impression I would strongly urge your Lordship, should it be practicable, to at once assert Great Britain's priority of right over the aforesaid strip of coast, as at present there is, excluding the Sultan's pretensions, no other claimant of it but the nomadic Sahaaran tribes who also inhabit the Cape Juby district. There can be no doubt that perhaps at no distant future, when trans-Sahaaran and other African railways have ceased to be mere projects, all outlets on the Atlantic Ocean about Cape Juby will become of supreme value, in view not only of their proximity to England but also owing to the remarkable salubrity of the localities.

With regard to Mulaï Hassan's desire to distribute the payment of the 50,000*l.* over a term of five years by yearly instalments of 10,000*l.* each, I have to crave your Lordship's indulgence for having, under the strongest solicitation of the Sultan, consented to submit it to your Lordship's consideration.

The Moorish Government's financial position is such as to require no forbearance of the kind, but Mulaï Hassan's ignorance and fear of the cupidity of European Governments lead him to imagine that by delaying the payment of sums due from him, he will establish a salutary reputation of impecuniosity.

Should your Lordship accept the Sultan's proposal, I would suggest that I should be directed to require, as a part of it, that Mulaï Hassan should supply me with a Shereefian note of hand for the 50,000*l.*, which might be, the need arising, financially discounted by the North-West Africa Company.

In conclusion, I may point out to your Lordship that the Sultan's insistence on leaving matters unchanged at Cape Juby is most advantageous for the British Company, as the Company obtains unconditionally its compensation, whilst under the risk of renewed claims arising, the Moorish Government is certain to cease impeding its trade operations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. KIRBY GREEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 24.

Draft of Arrangement proposed by Cid Emfadel Gharneet to Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

WHEN the British Minister came to the Sultan's Court and renewed the discussion on the question of their Company's trading at Tarfaya, maintaining that the natives of that place are an independent people, and that their allegiance to the Government of Morocco is of a purely religious character, it was thought expedient to let matters stand as they are with the Company until this question shall be adjudicated upon in accordance with justice, in order to put an end to misunderstandings and preserve the friendship existing between the two Governments, and to adjust the matter for the present in the following manner:—

1. The Moorish Government will pay to the Company for its alleged losses in its trade at the said place, 20,000l.
2. The Company will pay to the Government of this country 10 per cent.
3. Should it become necessary to refer to the books of the Company, which will show the merchandize imported by it at Juby, they will be examined by persons appointed to that effect by the British and Moorish Governments.
4. The Moorish Government will support the Company in its trade as far as possible, and the soldiers who are there to act against them will act on their behalf.
5. There will be placed there a Commissioner of the Moorish Government, as Kaïd or Sheikh, to see that the Company is assisted in its trade.

Inclosure 2 in No. 24.

Draft of Terms in which proposed permanent Arrangement concerning Cape Juby Claim would be acceptable.

(Translation.)

WHEN the British Minister came to the Sultan's Court and renewed the discussion on the question of the Company's trading at Tarfaya, maintaining that the natives of that place are an independent people, and that their allegiance to the Government of Morocco is of a purely religious character, it has been thought expedient, for the purpose of preventing fresh misunderstandings arising between the two friendly Governments, to adjust the matter in the following manner:—

1. The Shereefian Government will pay to the Company, for its alleged losses in its trade at the said place, 20,000l.
2. The Company will pay to the Shereefian Government every year 10 per cent. on the value of the merchandize imported by them to the region of Juby and there sold or bartered. The Company is prepared to make this payment in consideration of the advantage it will derive from the good-will and support of His Shereefian Majesty.
3. The Company will engage that the amount to be paid every year to the Moorish Government will not be less than 1,000l.
4. Should it become necessary to refer to the books of the Company, which show the merchandize imported by it at Juby, they will be examined by persons appointed to that effect by the British and Moorish Governments.
5. The Shereefian Government will support, as far as possible, the Company, its servants, and allies at Cape Juby.

There is no objection that the 6th condition regarding the sole right of the Company trading between Wad Draa and Cape Bojador, and the right of pre-emption over all the land situated between those two boundaries, should be admitted in a separate Shereefian letter.

Dated the 18th February, 1891, corresponding to the 8th Rejib, 1308.

Inclosure 3 in No. 24.

Cid Emfadel Gharneet to Sir W. K. Green.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

I HAVE submitted to His Shereefian Majesty the demand of the English Company for the payment of 50,000l. on account of the losses sustained by it in the carrying out of its trade at Juby through the opposition of the officials of the Moorish Government to its trade and the stoppage of the same. The Sultan has commanded me to answer you that

he has accepted to pay the said 50,000l. to the Company on that account, payment being extended over five years, so that he will pay each year to the Company one-fifth of the said amount, namely, 10,000l., and the question of the establishment of the Company at Juby will remain on the same footing as hitherto.

Finished the 10th Rejib, 1308 (20th February, 1891).

(Signed)

MOHAMMED EL MUFADDAL BEN
MOHAMMED GHARNIT.

Inclosure 4 in No. 24.

Sir W. K. Green to Cid Emfadel Gharneet.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

February 20, 1891 (Rejeb 10, 1308).

I HAVE received your letter of to-day's date saying that you had communicated to His Shereefian Majesty what I claimed on behalf of the English Company, viz., the payment of 50,000l. for the loss sustained by it in the carrying on of its trade at Cape Juby through the opposition of Moorish officials to its trade, and the stoppage of the same, and that the Sultan had accepted to pay the 50,000l. to the Company on that account, payment being extended over five years, so that he will pay to the Company every year one-fifth of the said amount, which is 10,000l., and that the question of the establishment of the Company at Juby will remain on the same footing as hitherto. I hereby accept the 50,000l. for the aforesaid losses on the understanding that the question will remain on the same footing as hitherto. I must tell you that (I consider) that the Sultan is perfectly able to pay this sum without any delay, but as His Majesty desires that the payment be extended over five years, I am bound to refer to my Government as to this payment of it by instalments in five years. The Sultan may rest assured that I will use my best endeavours to promote His Majesty's wishes in this matter.

Peace.

(Signed)

W. KIRBY GREEN.

No. 25.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Consul White.

(No. 3.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, March 9, 1891.

HER Majesty's Government approve the arrangement described in Sir Kirby Green's despatch No. 6 relative to Cape Juby. You should instruct Vice-Consul De Vismes to obtain from the Sultan his note of hand for 50,000l., as proposed by the late Minister.

No. 26.

Foreign Office to North-West Africa Company.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 12, 1891.

WITH reference to my letter of the 25th ultimo, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that full Reports by the late Sir Kirby Green have now been received, recording his negotiations with the Moorish Government for the settlement of the claims of the North-West Africa Company in connection with their establishment at Cape Juby.

On the 17th January, Sir K. Green presented a Memorandum, copy of which is herewith inclosed, embodying the arrangement proposed by Her Majesty's Government on behalf of the Company.*

Lengthy negotiations ensued, but on the 18th February Cid Emfadel Gharneet and Cid Hamed Kerdudi, a Secretary of the Foreign Minister, called and stated that they had been formally empowered by the Sultan to say that His Majesty, rather than bind himself by the terms of the Memorandum, had elected to terminate the Cape Juby affair by paying the indemnity of 50,000l. originally demanded as compensation for loss of trade.

A translation of an official acknowledgment from the Moorish Minister of the Sultan's liability for the payment of this sum is annexed.†

I am, &c.

(Signed)

P. CURRIE.

* Inclosure in No. 16.

† Inclosure 3 in No. 24.

Mr. de Vismes to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 14.)

(A.)

My Lord,

Morocco City, February 26, 1891.

I FULFIL a most painful duty in reporting to your Lordship that Sir William Kirby Green died in a most sudden manner on the evening of the day before yesterday, the 24th February, of cerebral apoplexy. According to his custom since his health had begun to fail, he had retired to rest a short time after dinner and was hearing the newspapers read to him when the fatal attack visited him, and the medical officer to the Mission, Surgeon-Major H. Charlesworth, who had been summoned in all haste, only arrived to find him lifeless.

I immediately took steps to bring the sad news to the knowledge of the Sultan and his Ministers, and Cid Emfadel Gharneet hastened to the residence assigned to this Mission to convey to the relatives of the deceased Minister the Sultan's heartfelt expressions of condolence.

I lost no time in communicating the news to Mr. Consul White at Tangier, to enable him to report it to your Lordship by telegraph, and take your Lordship's instructions. I also requested him to make arrangements for the conveyance of the late Minister's remains, by sea, from Mazagan to Tangier, and preparations were immediately commenced for their transport by land to the former port.

At 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon the coffin was carried out through a gate leading from the garden placed at the disposal of this Mission to the open country, and borne on two mules to the first encampment on the road to Mazagan, being followed for a considerable distance by all the Europeans at present in Morocco city, among whom are the members of the French Diplomatic Mission, under the Interpreter of the French Legation at Tangier, M. Hélouis, who recently arrived here; the members of the French Military Mission; the Secretary and Interpreter of the Italian Legation, Signor Gentile; and M. Rottenburg, a German officer of Engineers in the Sultan's service.

Pursuant to a wish expressed by Lady Kirby Green, I intrusted the direction of the party accompanying the remains of Sir William Kirby Green to Tangier to Kaïd Allan Maclean, whom the Sultan readily placed at our disposal for this object; and I requested Lieutenants H. C. Howard, King's Royal Rifle Corps, and R. P. Lee, Royal Engineers, to accompany it as representatives of the Mission.

I cannot conclude this Report without expressing my acknowledgment of the very valuable services rendered me on this most painful and trying occasion by Kaïd Harry Maclean and his brother Kaïd Allan Maclean, as also of the effective assistance extended to me in it by the other members of this Mission, Surgeon-Major Charlesworth and Lieutenants Howard and Lee.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

No. 28.

Mr. de Vismes to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 14.)

(B.)

My Lord,

Morocco City, February 26, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that Sir William Kirby Green's son, Mr. John Kirby Green, and myself had the honour of being received in audience by the Sultan yesterday morning.

His Majesty was most gracious in his expressions of deep sympathy with Lady Kirby Green and her family in the severe blow they have sustained by the sudden demise of Sir William Kirby Green, and of the feelings of high regard and esteem His Majesty had always entertained for his person and character.

At this juncture, after suitably replying to the Sultan's sympathetic assurances, I ventured to observe to His Majesty that I was perfectly well versed in all the matters at issue between the British Legation and the Moorish Government, the settlement of which had been the object of Sir William Kirby Green's mission. I was aware of the results hitherto attained, thereby alluding to the orders furnished for the erection of a Lloyd's signal station at Cape Spartel, and the acknowledgment of the Sultan's liability for the payment of 50,000*l.* to the North-West Africa Company, reported upon to your Lordship in despatches Nos. 4 and 6 of the 13th and 21st instant respectively. I added that there was a considerable ledger of affairs of minor but varying importance, which, unde

Sir William Kirby Green's instructions, I had laid before the Moorish Government through the medium of Cid Hamed Kerdadi, a Secretary of Cid Emfadel Gharneet, and the settlement of which the late Minister was awaiting in order to be enabled to enter upon his return journey. I undertook to say that it would be looked upon as a token of His Majesty's desire to give prominence to the friendly sentiments with which he was animated towards Great Britain and her late Representative, if at a moment like the present he would without farther hesitancy enable me to take back with me to Tangier letters ordering a satisfactory settlement of all the affairs in question. The Sultan immediately summoned Cid Emfadel Gharneet to his presence, and directed him to attend to my request.

Your Lordship is no doubt aware that a prompt and satisfactory fulfilment of the hopes thus held out to me would be out of keeping with the ordinary mode of proceeding of this Government. Still I felt it to be desirable not to leave a stone unturned in order to bring about a settlement of the numerous matters which remained pending at the time of Sir John Drummond Hay's retirement, to which others have been continually adding themselves since then, the Moorish Government having taken up an almost invariable standpoint of inattention to the representations reaching them from the British Legation.

Under these circumstances, I trust I shall not meet with your Lordship's disapproval in delaying my return to my post at Tangier, till I receive the instructions I have applied for through Mr. Consul White, as it is within the range of possibility that my presence here might be put to useful account by him or whomsoever your Lordship may place in charge of British interests in this country, while my departure *re infecta* might not improbably inaugurate a fresh period of persistent obstruction against British interests on the part of the Sultan and his officials.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

No. 29.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 14.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 7, 1891.

I HAVE received a letter from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu reporting that he, with Mr. John Kirby Green, had had an audience of the Sultan, who had expressed his great regret at the sad death of Sir William Kirby Green. Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu observed to His Shereefian Majesty that a favourable opportunity was now afforded for showing his good-will by giving orders for the prompt settlement of the minor questions still pending, and the Sultan at once called Cid Emfadel Gharneet, and gave the orders desired.

Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu added in his letter that he considered it advisable to remain at Morocco to continue the negotiations for the settlement of these questions, and requested me to solicit your Lordship's instructions on this point, stating that Lady Kirby Green was willing to postpone her departure from Morocco for that purpose.

As the principal objects of the Mission had already been attained, and the questions still pending are of comparatively minor importance, it appeared to me undesirable that the Mission should remain at Morocco after the death of Her Majesty's Minister longer than necessary to enable them to receive the promised Shereefian letters regarding questions already settled. Before, however, giving any instructions to Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, I thought it my duty to communicate with your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

P.S.—Since writing the preceding despatch I have received from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu the two despatches herewith inclosed.*

In a private letter of the 1st instant, just received, Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu informs me that he will probably leave Morocco on the 4th or 5th instant for Daralbaida, where he will await instructions as to whether he should proceed to Tangier with the rest of the party, or return to Morocco city.

H. E. W.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 7.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, March 17, 1891.

I HAVE to request that you will convey to Mr. de Vismes my approval of his proceedings on the occasion of the death of Sir W. Kirby Green, as reported in his despatch of the 26th ultimo.

You will at the same time direct him to express my thanks to Kaïd Harry and Kaïd Allan Maclean for their courteous assistance in connection with the conveyance of the late Minister's remains to Tangier.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 8.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, March 17, 1891.

I HAVE had under my consideration Mr. de Vismes' despatch of the 26th ultimo, reporting the action which, after Sir K. Green's death, he had taken at an audience of the Sultan with a view to the adjustment of the various questions at issue with the Moorish Government.

I have to instruct you to inform Mr. de Vismes that the language which he held on the occasion in question is approved, and that he is authorized to endeavour to obtain a settlement of pending British claims if he should see any early prospect of success.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

Mr. de Vismes to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 24.)

(Confidential.)
My Lord,

Morocco, March 3, 1891.

IN continuation of my despatch of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that Cid Emfadh Gharneet yesterday provided me with twenty-one Shereefian letters in satisfaction of demands put forward by me under the instructions of Sir William Kirby Green in the course of this Mission, and with a Memorandum containing the answers of the Sultan on a great number of the affairs under negotiation. I have lost no time in communicating with Mr. Consul White on these matters.

While thus noting a certain apparent readiness on the part of this Government to meet the British demands, which, however, cannot be accurately estimated until the result of the aforesaid Shereefian letters has been ascertained, I feel that I should be failing in my duty were I to withhold from your Lordship certain facts which have come to my knowledge, and which throw an interesting light on the nature of the assurances of friendship and sympathy of which the Sultan and his Ministers have not been sparing towards this Mission since the sad event of Sir William Kirby Green's death.

I have learnt through more than one source, of which I have no reason to suspect the trustworthiness, that Cid Emfadh Gharneet, who brought the sad intelligence to the Sultan, received a gratuity from His Majesty in token of the pleasure caused him by the news; that the Minister for Foreign Affairs caused a feast to be prepared in his house in celebration of the event on the following day—that on which Sir William Kirby Green's remains were conveyed out of this town; and that the Governor of the city of Morocco sacrificed oxen and sent candles to the Mosque in the same spirit of exultation over the removal by death of one who, for reasons not far at hand, had begun to be regarded by them in the light of a feared antagonist.

It would perhaps be presumption on my part were I to attempt to dwell at any length on the great energy by which alone Sir Kirby Green was enabled to arrive in

the settlement of the Cape Juby question at the result reported by him to your Lordship, which will, I have no doubt, be deemed by your Lordship a sufficient proof in itself of the untiring and zealous devotion to his duties which may be said to have cost him his life.

Though there is little room for doubt that the uncompromising attitude which he found it necessary to observe towards the Shereefian Government in this matter roused in them the bitterest feelings towards him, these were also fostered by another probably far more potent cause, which I should not feel myself justified in passing over in silence to your Lordship.

It is within my knowledge that for some time past Sir William Kirby Green had used the most earnest endeavours, supported by very strong arguments, to obtain from the Sultan a closing of all the slave-markets in his Empire and notably of that in Morocco city, in which no less than 360 human beings were computed at the end of January to have been bartered and sold since the arrival of this Mission here.

The feelings which I have thus been led to attribute to the Sultan and his Government towards the memory of the late Minister appear to have found further utterance in the proceedings enacted this day towards the members of the Mission who are about to enter upon their return journey to Tangier.

The Sultan, on hearing of Sir William Kirby Green's death, had sent to Lady Green a sympathetic message inviting her to prolong her stay here as long as might suit her convenience. Her departure had, however, been fixed for to-day, and I had made known my intention of escorting her as far as the Port of Daralbaida, where I might hope to be placed in possession of instructions as to my future course. Some delay was, however, caused chiefly by the Moorish Minister's failure to hand to me the Sultan's letters on the day promised, namely, the 28th February, and a reconsideration of the matter convinced me that it would be most advisable for me to await orders here, Lady Kirby Green having expressed her readiness under the circumstances to dispense with my escort.

This morning, at the time at which I had been entitled to expect to be placed in possession of further letters, Cid Emfadh Gharneet called on me and requested to be informed whether it was our intention to take our immediate departure. On my telling him that Lady Kirby Green's weak state and other unavoidable circumstances had led to a postponement of the departure of herself and her family for two days, and that I had seen reason to alter my original intention of accompanying them, Cid Gharneet seemed to wish to hold me to what he was pleased to consider as my pledged word that the departure of the whole Mission should take place to-day, on which he stated he had based his Report to the Sultan.

On my expressing my surprise that he should have interpreted my statement to him as a binding engagement, and that the Sultan should appear to attach such weight to this matter, the Moorish Minister used all his powers of persuasion to prevail upon me to cause our camp to be pitched to-day at a short distance from this city, in order to, partially at least, verify the report he had made to his Royal Master. I could not but feel that compliance with this request would have been derogatory to the dignity of the British Legation in this country, as it would certainly, in a country like Morocco, have become the basis of a report that the relicts of the late Minister had been expelled by special command of the Sultan, Cid Emfadh Gharneet having allowed me to perceive that he was enjoined not to leave the Summer Palace, where we are lodged, until he had witnessed our departure.

I therefore trust I may not meet with your Lordship's disapproval in having at this juncture adopted a tone of extreme hauteur with the Sultan's Minister. I informed Cid Emfadh Gharneet that if the further presence of the members of this Legation were displeasing to His Majesty, they were perfectly ready to dispense with the outward tokens of the Sultan's auspices and to fall back on their own resources; that I would on no account lend myself to any course which might be interpreted as an acceleration of our departure, and that my all-sufficient answer for communication to the Sultan was that the members of Her Majesty's Legation would leave when convenient to them, having no desire whatever to prolong their stay beyond the necessary time. I added a statement of my reasons for personally awaiting my instructions here.

After having exhausted all means of altering my decision the Moorish Minister and his Secretaries retired amidst friendly and complimentary assurances, being apparently much alarmed by the impression created by the action taken by them under superior orders. I am informed, in the most reliable manner, that these orders were conveyed to them in a note handed yesterday to Cid Emfadh Gharneet in my presence.

I have reason to believe that I shall not again be approached by the Moorish Minister. I will myself maintain complete reserve towards him until the receipt of any instructions to the contrary effect from Her Majesty's Representative in this country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTTHIEU.

No. 33.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received March 24.)

(No. 12.)
My Lord,

Tangier, March 17, 1891.

HEREWITH I have the honour to forward a despatch addressed to your Lordship by Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu,* reporting proceedings at the Moorish Court subsequent to the death of Sir William Kirby Green.

With reference to the alleged rejoicings of the Sultan and Moorish officials at the death of Her Majesty's late Minister, it is only fair towards them that I should state that it is extremely difficult to know what reliance can be placed on the various reports that reach one in this country. Kaïd Maclean, writing to me from Morocco city on the 1st instant, refers to these rumours, and declares that they are absolutely untrue, and that His Shereefian Majesty and his Ministers had deeply regretted the sudden death of Sir William Kirby Green.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 34.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 11.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1891.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 12 of the 17th instant, forwarding a Confidential despatch, dated the 3rd instant, in which Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu reports on the attitude of the Sultan of Morocco and of his Ministers subsequent to the death of Sir W. Kirby Green.

I have to request you to inform Mr. de Vismes that his proceedings, as reported in that despatch, are approved.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 35.

Consul Payton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 1. Treaty.)
My Lord,

Mogador, March 24, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to state that my attention has been called to a pamphlet entitled "A Report on the Protégé System in Morocco," by a Mr. Donald Mackenzie, published last year.

Among other statements in that Report, Mr. Mackenzie says, on p. 51, that I furnished him, on the occasion of his visit here last year, with a list of British "protégés" in Mogador, and that they were twenty-one in number.

He goes on to say that there were only five British merchants in Mogador who, according to Treaty, would only be entitled to have ten protected agents between them.

This statement being not only misleading, but grossly inaccurate, I feel it my duty to put your Lordship in possession of the actual facts, in case your Lordship's attention should be drawn to the passage to which I have referred, or in case any question should be asked on this subject in Parliament.

Whoever gave Mr. Mackenzie the remarkable information as to the number of British merchants in Mogador, would appear to have based that information upon the extraordinary hypothesis that only "Christians" could be counted as "British merchants." Even in this case Mr. Mackenzie's number of five would have been slightly

* No. 32.

exceeded, but, reckoning as British merchants British subjects both Christian and Hebrew, there appear to have been, at the time of Mr. Mackenzie's visit, no less than fifteen engaged in genuine wholesale business, and each entitled, according to Treaty, to have two "Semsars" under protection; so that Mogador might have returned thirty properly protected agents, instead of only twenty-one.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. A. PAYTON.

No. 36.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 16.)
My Lord,

Tangier, April 1, 1891.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 1 of the 10th January, on the subject of the claim of the Calpean Insurance Company arising out of the looting of the "San Francisco" on the coast of Riff, I have the honour to place your Lordship in possession of the following particulars which I have obtained from M. Figuera, the Spanish Minister.

The "San Francisco" was a small Spanish sailing-vessel of 19 tons, that had been trading between the Spanish possessions in Morocco, Gibraltar, and Spain. On this voyage she had been freighted to Melilla, but owing to heavy weather ran aground on the sandy beach at Botoya between Cape Tres Forcas and Cape Quilates, those on board succeeding in getting safely ashore.

Early the following morning the Riffians of the Beniseker tribe went out to the vessel and worked to such purpose that by midday they had cleared off every trace of vessel and cargo.

The preceding account given by the master and sailors of the "San Francisco" was, it appears, confirmed by the Moorish Governor of the district, who had proceeded to the spot on hearing of the occurrence.

Referring to a large bundle of papers bearing on the case which he had just received from his Government, M. Figuera found that a claim for 300*l.* had been included on account of the cargo belonging to the British firm.

M. Figuera stated that he had not yet formally presented any claim to the Moorish Government, but that he had spoken on the subject to Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres, who had admitted that, if the facts were as alleged, the claim must be paid.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 37.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 13.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, April 10, 1891.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 16 of the 1st instant, and I have to request you to co-operate, if necessary, with your Spanish colleague in obtaining a settlement of the claim for 300*l.* on account of cargo owned by British subjects which was looted by Riffian Moors when the Spanish vessel "San Francisco" stranded near Melilla.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 38.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Head and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, April 10, 1891.

WITH reference to your letter of the 6th January last, in regard to the case of the Spanish vessel "San Francisco," which was looted by Riffian Moors near Melilla, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Representative at Tangier has reported that a sum of 300*l.* on account of the cargo is included in the claim which the Spanish Minister in Morocco is about to present to the Moorish Government.

I am to add that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires will be instructed to co-operate, if necessary, with his Spanish colleague in obtaining a settlement of this claim.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 11.)

(No. 20.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 3, 1891.

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch No. 2 of the 30th January inclosing copy of a letter from the Aborigines Protection Society in which the evils of the system of protection are set forth, and inviting observations on the suggested establishment of Mixed Tribunals in Morocco, I have the honour to state that the general consensus of opinion here appears to be in favour of the establishment of such Tribunals, and I think there can be little doubt that could this be brought about the conditions of trade in this country would be greatly improved, and there would be a distinct gain from the material as well as from the humanitarian point of view.

Sir William Kirby Green, in his despatch No. 55 of the 27th April, 1888, suggested Mixed Tribunals as the means of rendering possible the abolition of protection, and in Article IX of his draft modification of the Madrid Convention, inclosed in that despatch, he gave a short sketch of the composition and jurisdiction of these Tribunals as he proposed to establish them.

It is unhappily but too true that great evils arise from the system of protection—evils often brought about by scandalous abuse of the system by foreign officials, but also not unfrequently existent in spite of every possible endeavour on the part of the authority concerned to cope therewith. At the same time, it must be borne in mind that the absolute and unconditional abolition of protection would have disastrous effects on the commerce of this country. No one who has spent any time in Morocco could entertain any hopes of a sudden reform of the Sultan's Government, such as would justify the delivery into the power of the native Governors of persons intrusted with important British interests; if therefore it is desired to surrender the right of protection it is necessary to seek some alternative which, whilst obviating the evils arising out of protection, will safeguard the interests of merchants trading with the country. The establishment of Mixed Tribunals seems to be the only effective alternative that suggests itself, and could the Sultan and the various foreign Governments be induced to agree to their establishment on a sound basis, an end would also at once be put to another great abuse prevalent in this country, and independent of the system of protection, viz., fraudulent claims on natives. Under present conditions it is impossible for Consular officers to exercise any effective control in respect to such claims. A British subject, for instance, brings forward a claim on some Moor of the interior, producing in its support legal Moorish documents drawn up in due form, but which, perhaps, are nevertheless fraudulent; without actually confronting the two parties and hearing the witnesses, it is quite impossible to judge of the merits of the case, and the claim on the *prima facie* evidence of the documents appears to be valid; the only course open to the Consular officer is to forward the claim to the local Governor, who probably will either cast the defendant into prison and realize all his property for his own private benefit, rendering little or nothing for the claimant, or will accept a present from the defendant and put the claimant off with various excuses—in either case quite regardless of the justice or injustice of the claims. Thus honest merchants are unable to recover amounts due to them, whilst, on the other hand, innocent natives frequently suffer fearful hardships in consequence of fraudulent claims brought against them by unscrupulous traders.

I do not of course pretend to say that Mixed Tribunals would be the means of putting an end to all injustice in Morocco, but they would at all events remove the reproach from Europeans of being the cause of such injustice, and at the same time enable *bona fide* merchants to carry on their business under more favourable circumstances.

I would venture to add, in conclusion, that before bringing forward any proposal for the establishment of Mixed Tribunals it would be desirable that a scheme should be prepared by competent persons—persons who could combine experience of the working of such Tribunals in the East with a knowledge of this country—so that in making the proposal, a properly elaborated scheme might be submitted, for I fear that otherwise, if left to a conference of foreign Representatives, most of whom have little experience of the practical working of a Court of Law, and each of whom would probably have his own ideas on the subject, a confused and unpracticable scheme would be the result.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 11.)

My Lord,

2, Paper Buildings, Temple, April 10, 1891.

WE address your Lordship at the request of the Conjoint Foreign Committee of the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews and the Anglo-Jewish Association, in the hope of enlisting your Lordship's generous sympathy and powerful good offices for the protection of the Jewish inhabitants of Imentanout, in Morocco, from the cruel conduct of the Caïd Azad-el-Meubhee.

We inclose copy of a letter we have received from Mr. Reuben Elmaleh of Mogador, a most trustworthy correspondent, from which it would appear that the Caïd, in wanton cruelty and caprice, is expelling the Jewish community (consisting of 600 souls) from their homes, and despoiling them of their property. The poor victims were unable to offer any resistance to their cruel persecutor, and were only hopeful that they might escape with their lives.

We earnestly appeal to your Lordship that you will, in that broad spirit of humanity and benevolence which ever characterizes your Lordship's proceedings, exert your powerful influence for the protection of the Jewish community of Imentanout, and should your Lordship see fit to accede to our request, you may possibly find the occasion of sufficient gravity to warrant the dispatch of a telegram to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier.

Commending the matter to your Lordship's kind and benevolent consideration, we have, &c.

(Signed)

ARTHUR COHEN, President, London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews.

LEOPOLD SCHLOSS, Vice-President of the Anglo-Jewish Association.

Inclosure in No. 40.

Mr. Elmaleh to M. Duparc.

Sir,

Mogador, March 10, 1891.

IT is with great regret that I have to inform the Executive Committee of a barbarous and cruel act of the Governor of Imentanout, a province two days' journey from Mogador, towards our co-religionists residing there.

In that province, which is under the Governorship of Caïd Azad-el-Meubhee, there are, since about seventy years ago, four Jewish quarters or "mellahs," which give shelter to about 600 Jews, including wives and children, who have their own property, consisting of houses and lands, which they cultivate for the maintenance of their families.

About two weeks ago the said Governor, having just returned from the Shereefian Court of Morocco, informed the Jews that they were to leave immediately and go where they may choose; and to enforce this act of cruelty he placed twelve soldiers near the "mellahs" to hasten their departure, and to whom the Jews have to pay 12 dollars per day, the Caïd stating that such are the Imperial orders. The Jews signified to their Caïd that, besides their own property, they had goods and produce to a very considerable amount belonging to several other merchants on the coast, and, therefore, they required a regular time to collect them; but the Governor said he would not listen to them at all, and they were to leave at once, no matter what they had.

The last news I have from the Jews of Imentanout is that they are in the most awful position of oppression, and they had to send away their wives and children as they were not allowed to stay any longer, and that they were also decided to abandon all and depart at once for fear of being murdered. God knows where they are now exiled. It is much to be feared that other Caïds may do the same to the Jews dwelling within their jurisdiction, if efficient measures are not taken at once to prevent it. I informed the British Consul in this town, and I have also written to the Shereefian Court; and last week, when the French Minister was here on his way to Morocco, I applied to him, soliciting his kind interference on behalf of our poor banished brethren.

I earnestly hope that the gentlemen of the Executive Committee and other influential members will take the necessary steps for the redress of the poor Jews of Imentanout, and to put a stop to such scandalous and barbarous acts of cruelty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) REUBEN ELMALAH.

No. 41.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 4.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, April 11, 1891.

INQUIRE into alleged action of Governor of Imentanout, near Mogador. Jewish Committee complain that he is expelling all Jews from their quarters. Grant them such assistance as you properly can.

No. 42.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 14.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 11, 1891.

THE London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews and the Anglo-Jewish Association have called my attention to an alleged act of cruelty on the part of the Governor of Imentanout, near Mogador, towards the Jewish community in that province.

According to a Report received by the Committee from a trustworthy source at Mogador, the Governor, who had recently returned from the Shereefian Court at Morocco, gave out that he had received the Sultan's commands to expel all the Jews from the "mellahs" which they have occupied for the last seventy years, and proceeded to carry out his orders in the most peremptory manner, thereby not only depriving the Jews of their homes, but also despoiling them of all their property.

Copies of the Committee's letter, and of its inclosure, are inclosed herewith.* I have requested you, by telegraph, to take such action as you properly can on behalf of the Jews, and report to me on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 43.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 12, 3 P.M.)

(No. 6.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tangier, April 12, 1891, 11:30 A.M.

REFERRING to your Lordship's telegram No. 4, Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador having reported to me expulsion of [?] Jews, I wrote on the 14th ultimo to the Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Court, begging him to obtain from the Sultan orders to the Governor in question to permit Jews to remain, or, if there are imperative reasons for their leaving, at least to give them time. I have not yet received a reply from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and I will address to him another letter on the subject.

No. 44.

Foreign Office to London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 13, 1891.

WITH reference to your letter of the 10th instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to request you to inform the Conjoint Foreign Committee that Her Majesty's Representative at Tangier has reported by telegraph that, previous to the receipt of the telegraphic instructions which were sent to him on the 11th instant, in accordance with your request, he had written to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, urging him to move the Sultan to order the Governor of Imentanout to permit the Jewish families to remain, or, at any rate, to give them time to prepare for departure, if imperative reasons should exist for their leaving the province.

Mr. White adds that he was about to address a further letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs upon the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

* No. 40.

No. 45.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 14.)

(No. 22.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 6, 1891.

WITH reference to Sir William Kirby Green's despatches No. 99 of the 10th August and No. 122 of the 16th October, 1888, regarding the brutal treatment by the Governor of Dukala of Hadj Boazza-el-Auni, I have the honour to report that I have this day received from Hadj Mohamed Torres the sum of 2,000 dollars in settlement of this question, in accordance with the arrangement effected by Sir William Kirby Green at the Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 46.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 15.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 15, 1891.

YOUR despatch No. 22 of the 6th instant has been received.

No report respecting the case of Hadj Boazza-el-Auni seems to have been received at this Office subsequent to Sir K. Green's despatch No. 122 of the 16th October, 1888, and I am to request that you will report in greater detail the nature of the arrangement concluded between Her Majesty's late Minister and the Moorish Court in regard to this case.

It would be well also for you to instruct Mr. de Vismes to report what outstanding claims were settled by Sir K. Green, and the terms of settlement.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 47.

The Marquis of Salisbury to the Marquis of Dufferin.

(No. 81. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 17, 1891.

THE Italian Ambassador called upon me to-day with a message from his Government to which he was anxious to send an immediate reply. He stated that in 1887 a Treaty between Italy and Spain was negotiated, which was brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government at the time, and under which Spain entered into various engagements favourable to the maintenance of the *status quo* in the Mediterranean, and to the general policy of the Triple Alliance.

Now that the time has arrived for renewing the Triple Alliance, it was necessary to renew this Treaty also, which terminated at the same period. But Spain would only consent to do so with a reservation, of which Count Tornielli gave me a copy, which I inclose to your Lordship. The Italian Government were unwilling to assent to this reservation without the previous concurrence of the Government of Her Majesty.

I thanked Count Tornielli for this mark of confidence of the Italian Government, but I said that though at first sight there seemed to me to be nothing in the reservation to which Her Majesty's Government would demur, I should be glad to examine more closely the stipulations to which it referred before I gave a definite reply. I promised, therefore, to answer his Excellency to-morrow.

He stated at the same time that some apprehension had been caused in Morocco by the reputation for an active and energetic policy which had been acquired by Colonel Sir Charles Euan-Smith. I assured him that he might count on the judgment and moderation of that officer, and that he would be furnished with conciliatory instructions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

Inclosure in No. 47.

Memorandum communicated by Count Tornielli, April 17, 1891.

L'ESPAGNE déclare que le *statu quo* à la préservation duquel l'accord vise, doit s'entendre non seulement en corrélation avec l'état de fait au Maroc, mais aussi en corrélation avec l'état de droit d'après le Traité de Wad-ras, sans que sa liberté d'action en soit amoindrie pour le maintien de la sécurité des frontières Espagnoles sur le territoire Marocain.

No. 48.

Anglo-Jewish Association to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 20.)

My Lord, 36, Finsbury Circus, London, April 20, 1891.
WE have to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 13th instant, reporting the steps that had been taken by your Lordship and by Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Tangier for the protection of the Jews of Imentanout, and we desire most cordially to thank your Lordship for the kindness and alacrity exhibited on the occasion, and which, it is to be hoped, will avert from the Jewish community of Imentanout the serious danger with which they were threatened.

We have, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN GOLDSMID,
President of the Anglo-Jewish Association.
ARTHUR COHEN,
President of the Jewish Board of Deputies.

No. 49.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 21.)

(No. 24.)
My Lord, Tangier, April 13, 1891.
WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 4 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I received on the 14th ultimo from Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador, reporting the threatened expulsion of Jews from their quarters at Eloojan, Ait Abdallah, and Imentanout; I also inclose translation of the letter I addressed the Vizir Cid Emfadi Gharnit on the same day, urging him to obtain from the Sultan a revocation of the order of expulsion, or, should there be any imperative reason why the Jews should leave that district, permission to remain a reasonable time so as to allow of their making their arrangements; I also warned the Vizir that were these friendly counsels not followed, they would very probably have a number of claims put forward owing to these Jews being unable to pay their debts to foreign merchants in consequence of their expulsion.

I have as yet received no reply from the Vizir, but I understand that the threat of expulsion was carried into effect by the Governor, and the Jews' houses destroyed before my letter could have reached the Court. The Jews, however, went straight to Morocco city and petitioned the Sultan, who gave orders that they should return to their homes.

I have the honour to inclose herewith translation of a further letter I have this day addressed to Cid Emfadi Gharnit, requesting him to express to the Sultan my thanks for having been graciously pleased to give the orders solicited by me, and, at the same time, to beg that some compensation should be given to these poor Jews for the injury they have suffered.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 49.

Consul Payton to Mr. White.

Sir, Mogador, March 4, 1891.
I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a despatch, and its inclosures, which I addressed last week to Her Majesty's late Minister, Sir W. Kirby Green, asking his

Excellency's intercession on behalf of certain communities of Jews threatened with arbitrary and summary eviction.

The said despatch has been returned to me by Mr. Jacob S. Levy, who would be grateful for any assistance from Her Majesty's Legation on behalf of the poor Jews in whom he and others are interested.

I understand that the intercession of the French Minister, M. Patenôtre, who started yesterday for the Court, has also been invoked and promised. It seems rather hard that, when Jews here and at Morocco, suffering from overcrowding, are petitioning for additional house room, whole communities should be suddenly rendered homeless in the interior.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. A. PAYTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 49.

Consul Payton to Sir W. K. Green.

Dear Sir William, Mogador, February 27, 1891.
MY interpreter, Jacob S. Levy, has brought under my notice the complaint-précis, of which I inclose, of certain Jews inhabiting three "mellahs" in Soos, who appear to be threatened with expulsion by their Deputy-Governor, El Minbeeh, acting, he alleges, on the Sultan's orders.

This seems to be a hard case, and I make it known to your Excellency in the hope that your Excellency's intercession may procure the revocation, or a reasonable suspension of execution, of so arbitrary an order.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. A. PAYTON.

P.S.—J. S. Levy and other merchants here have a practical interest in the matter, having business relations and money owing to them among the communities in question.
C. A. P.

Inclosure 3 in No. 49.

Précis of Letter from Okha Kaslassy, an Agent of J. S. Levy, in the Mellah of Eloojan (South or South-east of Sheshowa).

February 25, 1891.

THE Lieutenant-Governor, El Minbeeh, is causing the Jews of the three "mellahs," viz., Eloojan, Ait Abdallah, and Imentanout, to quit their homes at once and leave the neighbourhood, stating that he has Royal orders in so doing. Population estimated 600 to 700 souls. They complain that the severe winter weather will cause great distress to the children and old people; and, if the trading members of the community are thus sent away, the chances of their recovering debts due to their Mogador principals will be ruined.

Inclosure 4 in No. 49.

Mr. White to Cid Emfadi Gharnit.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) Tangier, March 14, 1891.
I AM informed that the Deputy-Governor, El Minbeeh, has given orders to the Jews of the three "mellahs," Eloojan, Ait Abdallah, and Imentanout, to quit immediately their homes and leave the neighbourhood. It is stated that the Jews dwelling in these "mellahs" number from 600 to 700 souls; and they complain that their threatened expulsion from their houses in the severe winter weather will cause great distress and suffering to their children and the old people amongst them.

I have the honour to ask you to bring this matter under the notice of His Shereefan Majesty, whose known clemency, and the benevolence which His Majesty has at all times displayed towards his Jewish subjects, will, I venture to hope, prompt him to order the Deputy-Governor to revoke the order; or, if there are imperative reasons why these Jews should leave that neighbourhood, to grant them a reasonable term in which they can effect their removal without suffering unnecessary hardship.

Many of the trading members of these communities are, I am informed, indebted to foreign merchants at Mogador; and if they are compelled to leave their "mellahs" without time being afforded them to collect the debts due to them, they may be ruined, and their Mogador creditors suffer losses which may occasion troublesome claims to be put forward against the Moorish Government, which may be avoided by the revocation of the orders issued by El Minbeeh, or by a proper delay being afforded them to terminate their affairs before their removal. Peace.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 49.

Mr. White to Cid Emfadl Gharnit.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.)

Tangier, April 13, 1891.

WITH reference to my letter of the 14th ultimo, requesting your Excellency to beg the Sultan to give orders to the Governor, El Minbeeh, to permit the Jews of the "mellahs" of Ait Abdallah, Eloojan, and Imentanout to remain in those districts, I have the honour to request your Excellency to convey to His Shereefian Majesty my grateful acknowledgments of his gracious attention to the intercessions made on behalf of these poor Jews, for I have learnt that after they had been expelled by the Governor, in accordance with the threat, His Majesty was pleased to command that they should be permitted to return to their villages without molestation.

The case of these unfortunate people having been brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, I received instructions to appeal on their behalf to the Sultan, and it has been a great satisfaction to me to be in a position to report to the Marquis of Salisbury that His Shereefian Majesty, with his accustomed benevolence, had already given the necessary orders for their return to their respective homes.

I understand that the Governor, El Minbeeh, not content with expelling these Jews, had also destroyed their houses. I am convinced that His Majesty will cause compensation to be given to the sufferers by this arbitrary and cruel act of the Governor. Peace.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 50.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 21.)

(No. 25.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 13, 1891.

UPON receipt of your Lordship's telegram No. 1 of the 8th ultimo, I dispatched a courier to Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu at Morocco city, with instructions to him to remain at the Court if he was of opinion that he could thereby obtain a satisfactory settlement of the pending questions within a reasonable time.

Herewith I have the honour to transmit copy of the reply I have received from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, in which he states that the attitude of the Moorish officials at the Court leads him to hope that he may soon be able to arrive at a satisfactory settlement of those questions, and that he is therefore delaying his return to Tangier.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Mr. de Vismes to Mr. White.

Sir,

Morocco, March 25, 1891.

IN reply to your despatch of the 9th instant, I beg to inform you that the attitude observed by the Moorish Government leads me to hope that a settlement of the pending questions at issue with the British Legation may soon be arrived at.

I have Cid Emfadl Gharnit's promise that Commissioners will be dispatched to Mogador and Dar-al-Baida to settle local matters on the spot, after having first communicated with me on the affairs at issue, and I am informed from Saffi that the settlement of local claims there has already been begun.

I am also led to hope that certain pecuniary claims of some importance will be settled by payment of the sums concerned into my hands.

Under these circumstances, and in view of the fact that I have yet to obtain from the Sultan the document required by Her Majesty's Government in the matter of his liability to the North-West Africa Company, I am continuing my stay here for a short time longer in accordance with your instructions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

No. 51.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Count Tornielli.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, April 21, 1891.

WITH reference to the communication which your Excellency made to me on the 17th instant* in regard to the intended renewal of the Treaty of 1887 between Italy and Spain for the maintenance of the *status quo* in the Mediterranean, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government are ready to concur in the policy of the proposed renewal, and do not find in the reservation suggested by the Spanish Government any ground for qualifying that concurrence.

I take advantage of this opportunity to express a hope that the action of the Italian Government in consenting to this clause in the new Treaty will not be looked upon as countenancing the slightest departure from the principles laid down in the collective note addressed to the Moorish Government by the Representatives of Great Britain, Italy, and Spain on the 12th March, 1887, with regard to the maintenance of the independence and territorial integrity of the Moorish Empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 52.

Minute by Sir P. Currie.

SIR JOSEPH LEE tells me that he has received an offer from Belgians for the purchase of a part of the land owned (or claimed) by the British Company at Cape Juby, and for half the port.

He has ascertained that the offer is made on behalf of the King of the Belgians, who has been hankering after the place for three years, and sent officers to make plans and surveys. Sir J. Lee was told that if the offer was accepted there would be no difficulty with the Foreign Office, whose consent had been secured. It was stated that the place was wanted for a Red Cross sanitarium and for a colony of Belgians, but it transpired that troops would be maintained.

Sir J. Lee had offered to give the promoters of this undertaking shares in the English Company and a seat on the Board; but this did not satisfy them. He was anxious to know if the offer was supported by the Foreign Office. I recommended him to have nothing to do with it, and to keep the control of the place, as long as he remains there, in his own hands.

The offer made to the Cape Juby Company is contained in the accompanying letter.

P. C.

Foreign Office, April 22, 1891.

Annex.

(Communicated by Sir J. Lee, April 22, 1891.)

Dear Mr. Mackenzie,

Brussels, April 11, 1891.

MR. WIENER and I lost no time in communicating to our friends the information you were good enough to give us verbally last Wednesday, and which supplemented the offers you made us in your letter of the 12th March. . . . Our friends have given us their general ideas, and we beg to transcribe them as follows:—

1. They would be disposed to enter into your Company by the guarantee of a loan of 40,000*l.*, at 3 per cent., redeemable by sinking fund in fifty years.

2. In consideration of this guarantee, our friends would receive from the Company

* See No. 47.

the absolute and unconditional cession of a part of the territory of the free Tekna, of which you say you are the cessionnaires. This portion of territory would include a trifling slip of coast-line, commencing at the point of Cape Juby, and finishing towards the north at the point of Cape Affenier. . . . While the interior territories include, on the north side, the cultivable plain which stretches towards the Ouad Chibika, and between the Ouad Chibika and the Ouad Draa, and on the south by Aftout and Dourah up to Saglieh-el-Hamra, . . . all the rest of the coast north of Cape Affenier and south of Cape Juby would remain the property of the Company.

3. Should the Company wish to cede all the coast from Cape Juby up to the mouth of the Ouad Draa, the guarantee loan would be increased to 60,000*l*. Our friends would conserve on the ceded territories the nominal sovereignty of the original Chief of the district. . . . In the future these territories would remain theirs in spite of any winding-up and reconstruction or sale of the Company.

The Company would undertake to inform the Chiefs and tribes of the district of the cession made to our friends.

4. Besides this, our friends ask at Tarfaya itself, and not far from the shore-house, the cession of a small piece of land for the establishment of a house, a landing-quay, and a railway which would join the port of Tarfaya with the works, the sanitarium, and the sundry subsidiary buildings which they propose to found on the territory ceded by you. . . .

Our friends to have the same facility of access as the Company to the port, the castle, and the shore.

The quay which is to be constructed by our friends can be utilized for the Company's wants when we are not using it ourselves.

In the Customs Tariff which the Company is to establish, all provisions, materials, medicine, and arms destined for the wants and services of the sanitarium are to figure duty free. . . . All other goods will pay 5 per cent. import duty to the Company, of which 1 per cent. would be retained against the sinking fund of the loan.

The rest of the sinking fund would remain at our charge. . . . This duty of 5 per cent. to be the only one which can ever be applied, now or in the future, to our imports. . . . There would be no export duty to be applied to any of our goods.

The territories of the Company, other than those ceded to us, to be governed by the Administrative Council (Board?). . . . The Company would have, as you announce in your letter of the 12th March, its head office in London.

Our friends would be represented on the Administrative Council (Board?), and would receive such a quantity of paid-up shares as might be agreed on.

The preceding, dear Mr. Mackenzie, constitutes the essential points of our friends' general views, formulated without prejudice. . . . As to other points of detail, we would have to come to mutual arrangement about them after. . . . With this object, Mr. Wiener and I would come to London if you think that these proposals are acceptable to you and your partners as a basis of agreement.

You see that we have kept our promise to do our best to get our friends to answer in time for this letter to reach you on Monday, as you desired. . . . For your part, try, I beg you, to send us also a prompt reply.

Meanwhile, Mr. Mackenzie, believe me, &c.

No. 52*.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 23, 9 P.M.)

(No. 7.)

(Telegraphic.)

CAPE JUBY.

I have just received from De Vismes Sultan's letter to Minister for Foreign Affairs ordering the payment of 10,000*l*. at once, and the remaining 40,000*l*. in yearly instalments as arranged, last payment to be made on the 10th April, 1895. Shall I remit to your Lordship the 10,000*l*. now to be paid?

No. 53.

Memorandum by Sir E. Hertslet.

THE North-West Africa Company would not appear to have any right to cede this large extent of territory to Belgians or to any one else.

The places proposed to be ceded are marked in red on the accompanying Map

of Morocco;* upon which is also marked the small portion of territory on the coast near Cape Juby which was ceded by a local Chief to the Company in April 1879.

The cession was described as being "that portion of Tarfah extending from Cape Juby (on the North-West Coast of Africa in about 28° north) to the next promontory southward (to be hereafter called Stafford Point), together with the reef or reefs situated between the said Cape Juby and Stafford Point, which forms the port to be hereafter known as Port Victoria, with the territory extending from the sea-shore inland to the distance of 2 English miles."

In September 1885 Sir J. Lee declared that the territory between the Wady Draa and Cape Bojador was unclaimed by any Power, except the small portion which formed the North-West Africa Company's station at Cape Juby; but in January 1890 he stated that the claim of the Company related to the seaboard of Tekna, comprised within the limits of the Wady Draa in the north and Cape Bojador in the south, extending along the coast apparently for about 250 miles; but, so far as I have been able to discover, it is nothing more than a claim, as no Treaty or other document has been produced showing that the Company has any legal right to this territory.

See accompanying Memoranda of the 8th January and 22nd September, 1890, and 6th March, 1891.

E. H.

Foreign Office, April 24, 1891.

No. 54.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 18.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 25, 1891.

I APPROVE your proceedings in the matter of the recent expulsion of Jews from the Province of Imentanout, as reported in your despatch No. 24 of the 13th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 55.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 19.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 25, 1891.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 25 of the 13th instant, reporting that you had dispatched a courier to Morocco city to instruct Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu to remain there, if by so doing the settlement of pending British claims would be likely to be expedited; and I have to express to you my approval of your action in the matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 56.

Foreign Office to Anglo-Jewish Association.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 25, 1891.

WITH reference to my letter of the 13th instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to request you to inform the Conjoint Foreign Committee that Her Majesty's Representative at Tangier has reported that, although he had received no reply to the note which, on the 14th ultimo, he had addressed to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, he had ascertained that the threat of expulsion pronounced by the Governor of Imentanout against the Jewish families residing in that province was carried into effect, and their houses destroyed before his note could have arrived at the Court.

It appears, however, that the evicted Jews went straight to Morocco city and petitioned the Sultan, who thereupon gave orders that they should be permitted to return to their homes.

Mr. White has in consequence addressed a further note to the Vizir, requesting him to express to the Sultan his thanks for having given the orders which he had solicited, and, at the same time, to beg His Majesty to cause some compensation to be granted to the Jews for the injury they have suffered in consequence of the arbitrary action of the Governor.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

* In Confidential Paper No. 5961*.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 27.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 17, 1891.

WITH reference to Sir William Kirby Green's despatches No. 91 of the 27th August, and No. 114 of the 7th October, 1889, regarding the claim of Cid Boobeker-el-Ghanjawi arising out of the outrage on his property at Morocco, I have the honour to inclose herewith copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, reporting the final settlement of this matter, Cid Boobeker having consented to compromise his claim for 10,000 dollars.

This claim, which there was every reason to believe was practically settled by the Vizir Gharnit's letter to Sir William Kirby Green of the 17th September, 1889, translation of which was inclosed in the latter of the above-mentioned despatches, has been a source of trouble ever since, the Moorish authorities having apparently thought it a favourable opportunity for extorting money by imprisoning the alleged culprits, Cid Boobeker in the meantime receiving nothing; it was therefore with great satisfaction that I learnt from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu that he had succeeded in effecting a final settlement and obtaining the release of the prisoners.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 57.

Mr. de Vismes to Mr. White.

Sir,

Morocco, April 5, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have brought about a settlement of the question which had arisen between the British Legation and the Moorish Government in regard to the high-handed proceedings of the Governor of Morocco towards the British protégé Cid Boobeker-el-Ghanjawi, who claimed to recover a sum of 26,500 dollars, stated by him to represent his losses arising out of the aforesaid Governor's action in laying an embargo on his landed properties situated within the Governor's jurisdiction.

The Moorish Government, whilst disowning the Governor's responsibility for the losses stated by Cid Boobeker to have been incurred by him, communicated to me through Kaïd Maclean a proposal to adjust the difference by the payment to Cid Boobeker of the sum of 10,000 dollars as an indemnity for the unauthorized proceedings of their official. I thought it advisable, taking all the circumstances into consideration, to use my influence with Cid Boobeker to prevail upon him to agree to this settlement. Cid Boobeker having communicated to me his assent in writing, I have signified to the Moorish Government that their offer has been accepted; and I have at the same time requested the release of twenty-three men detained in prison in connection with this affair, whose guilt does not appear to have been established by a satisfactory inquiry, and whose imprisonment, though not sought for by Her Majesty's Legation, has given rise to bitter feelings in native circles, being generally regarded as an instance of the tyrannical working of the system of foreign protection in this country.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

Foreign Office to North-West Africa Company.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 27, 1891.

WITH reference to my letter of the 12th ultimo, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Representative at Tangier has reported by telegram that the Sultan of Morocco has given orders for the immediate payment of 10,000*l.* on account of the claims of the North-West Africa Company.

Mr. White adds that the remaining 40,000*l.* will be paid in yearly instalments, as arranged, and that the final payment will be made on the 10th April, 1895.

Lord Salisbury will be glad to be informed whether you would wish this instalment to be remitted to this country as soon as it is paid over to Mr. White.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 30.)

(No. 29.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 23, 1891.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 15 of the 15th instant, directing me to furnish your Lordship with particulars as to the arrangement concluded between Her Majesty's late Minister and the Moorish Court regarding the case of Hadj Boazza-el-Auni, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that, notwithstanding the assurances contained in the Vizir Gharnit's letter, translation of which was inclosed in Sir William Kirby Green's despatch No. 122 of the 16th December, 1888, none of Hadj Boazza's property was restored to him, and, though he himself was released, his son was kept in prison.

Reports continued to reach this Legation that Kaïd Emsaddek, apparently enraged at having had to release the father, redoubled his cruelty towards the son, placing heavy iron chains on him and flogging him repeatedly.

I will not trouble your Lordship with translations of the many letters addressed by Sir William Kirby Green to the Vizir, the majority of which remained unanswered, or of the replies that were received containing either vain excuses or promises which were never fulfilled; it is sufficient to state that, notwithstanding all Sir William Kirby Green's efforts, when he arrived at the Court last December, Hadj Boazza's son was still in prison, and his property had not been restored. Even when he was able to lay the case personally before the Sultan, Kaïd Emsaddek's influence at the Court was apparently so great that it was only with considerable difficulty that Sir William Kirby Green obtained from His Shereefian Majesty the release of the son, and an order for the payment of 2,000 dollars to Hadj Boazza as compensation for the property that had been confiscated, and for the hardships he and his son had suffered. This sum was paid to me by Hadj Mohammed Torres, as reported in my despatch No. 22 of the 6th instant, and was delivered by me to Hadj Boazza.

Fearing that Kaïd Emsaddek might seize Hadj Boazza on his return home, extort from him his money, and again cast him and his son into prison, I have deemed it expedient to retain him and his son under British protection for the present, and I have provided them with certificates to that effect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 30.)

(No. 30.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 23, 1891.

UPON receipt of your Lordship's telegram No. 3 of the 9th ultimo, informing me that the arrangements made for the settlement of the Cape Juby question, as reported in Sir William Kirby Green's despatch No. 6 of the 21st February, were approved by your Lordship, and directing me to instruct Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu to endeavour to obtain from the Sultan his note of hand for the 50,000*l.* to be paid to the North-West Africa Company, I directed Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu to take the necessary steps to carry out your Lordship's instructions.

On the 23rd March, having received the Legation archives from Morocco city, and having learned from the draft of Sir William Kirby Green's despatch No. 6 of the 21st February the exact nature of the arrangement effected by him, I addressed a letter, translation of which is inclosed herewith, to the Vizir Gharnit, in the sense of your Lordship's instructions. I thought it advisable to write myself to the Vizir, as Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu's hands would thereby be strengthened in his negotiations.

I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I received from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu on the 5th instant, inclosing translations of a letter he had addressed

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Cid Emfadl Gharnit in pursuance of your Lordship's instructions conveyed to him through me.

I further inclose copy of another despatch I have this day received from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, forwarding me a Shereefian order for the payment of the 50,000*l.* in five instalments as arranged, the first instalment to be paid at once, and the last on the 10th April, 1895.

Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu has, it appears, experienced considerable difficulty in making the Moorish Government act up to its engagements regarding the payment of the money. He is still endeavouring to obtain the Sultan's note of hand for the remaining payments, but mentions in a private letter that the Sultan is said to consider it derogatory to his dignity to give a document to be held by the Company for the purposes of negotiation.

I have this day had the honour to report to your Lordship by telegraph the receipt of the Shereefian order for the payment of 10,000*l.* at once, and to request your Lordship's instructions as to the disposal of that sum.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Mr. White to Cid Emfadl Gharnit.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

Tangier, March 23, 1891.

IN their desire to further mark their friendship towards the Sultan, Her Majesty's Government have authorized me by telegraph to accept the arrangement effected between His Shereefian Majesty and Sir William Kirby Green for the settlement of the claim of the North-West Africa Company for damage to their trade at Cape Juby, that is to say, they accept in full settlement of their claim the sum of 50,000*l.*, to be paid in five yearly instalments of 10,000*l.* each, the first instalment being paid at once, and the other four instalments being paid at intervals of one year, so that the whole amount of 50,000*l.* shall have been paid by the 1st April, 1895. The question of the establishment of the North-West Africa Company at Cape Juby will remain on the same footing as hitherto.

Her Majesty's Government have instructed me to request that the Sultan should supply the Company with a Shereefian note of hand for the 50,000*l.*, in order that they may be able, should they so desire, to financially discount it. I have therefore the honour to beg your Excellency to convey to His Shereefian Majesty the request of Her Majesty's Government, and to forward the Shereefian note of hand to me in order that I may transmit it to Her Majesty's Government for delivery to the Company.

Peace.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Mr. de Ponthieu to Mr. White.

Sir,

Morocco, March 27, 1891.

IN reply to your despatch of the 12th instant, communicating to me the instructions of Her Majesty's Government to obtain from the Sultan an acknowledgment of his liability to the North-West Africa Company, in the manner suggested in Sir William Kirby Green's despatch No. 6 to the Marquis of Salisbury, I beg to inclose to you herewith translation of a note I have addressed Cid Emfadl Gharnit on the subject.

You will observe that I have adopted, as a fair construction of the terms of Cid Emfadl Gharnit's note to Sir William Kirby Green, that the first of the five instalments which will constitute the sum of 50,000*l.* should be payable immediately, and the other instalments at periods of one, two, three, and four years from the present date.

The Moorish Minister, on the other hand, contends that it should be understood that the first instalment is payable in a year from the present date, that is, in the month of Shaaban 1309. To this proposition I have declined categorically to adhere.

I am given to understand that the view pressed upon me is that of His Majesty the Sultan, who has now begun to regret the sacrifice of so large a sum of money, in preference to an acquiescence in the advantageous proposals made him by Her Majesty's Government, which, as involving his definitive recognition of the North-West Africa

Company's status at Cape Juby, His Majesty was unable to decide upon accepting. I have, however, little doubt that the Sultan's aversion to divesting himself of any part of a sum which he regards as abandoned in pure waste, and as unjustifiably extracted from him, will, under wise counsels, be overcome in the course of a few days.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

Inclosure 3 in No. 60.

Mr. de Ponthieu to Cid Emfadl Gharnit.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

March 21, 1891 (10 Shaaban, 1308).

I HAVE received orders from Her Majesty's Government, through Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Marquis of Salisbury, to inform the Shereefian Government of its acceptance of the settlement in the matter of Cape Juby set forth in your Excellency's letter to the late Minister, Sir William Kirby Green, where you propose that the element of disagreement between the two Governments should be removed through the payment by the Shereefian Government to the Company of the sum of 50,000*l.*, on condition that payment of this sum should be distributed over five years (i.e., that it should be paid in five yearly instalments); and also to require the Shereefian Government to carry into effect the agreement entered into in such a manner as to enable the Company to realize the sum due to it. This will be done by the immediate payment to the Company of 10,000*l.*, and by providing them with Shereefian letters ordering the payment of the remaining four instalments at the terms indicated in your letter, so that each year 10,000*l.* will be paid until the amount settled for is completed. I therefore have the honour to request your Excellency to obtain this for me, and give me a satisfactory reply.

Peace.

(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

Inclosure 4 in No. 60.

Mr. de Ponthieu to Mr. White.

Sir,

Morocco, April 18, 1891.

I BEG to transmit to you herewith a Shereefian letter addressed to Hadj Mohammed Torres, containing instructions to him regarding the payment in five yearly instalments of 50,000*l.* to the British representative in this country on the behalf of the North-West Africa Company. I also annex true translations of the letter and the Memorandum contained in it, from which you will see that the first payment ordered is retrospective, and that it is arranged that the whole amount shall be paid by the 10th April, 1895, instead of the 1st April as required in your note to the Moorish Government.

I have, however, not judged it expedient to refuse to accept these instructions for transmission through you, as considerable opposition had to be overcome before obtaining them, and it does not appear desirable that further delay should take place in terminating this matter.

I am forwarding at the same time, through Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Fernan, a Shereefian letter to the Oomana of Dar-al-Baida, ordering them to transmit immediately to Hadj Mohammed Torres the amount of the first instalment of 10,000*l.*

I am now endeavouring, in accordance with the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, to obtain from the Moorish Government a document available as a negotiable instrument to place in the hands of the North-West Africa Company, though I fear the Sultan may very possibly persist in the view at present attributed to His Majesty, that compliance with this demand would be derogatory to his dignity.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

Inclosure 5 in No. 60.

Shereefian Letter to Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(Translation.)

(L.S.)

PRAISE be to God alone, and blessing on our Lord and Master Mohammed and his family.

To our faithful officer Hadj Mohammed-ben-el-Arbi Torres. May God give you prosperity, and peace be upon you and the mercy of God (which premised). A settlement has been arrived at with the late British Minister regarding the allegations of their Company established at Juby as to the losses in its trade at that place for 50,000*l.*, distributed over five years, so that the fifth part of that sum, that is, 10,000*l.*, shall be paid to them every year in the manner explained in the inclosed Memorandum, and the question of the establishment of the Company at Juby shall remain on the same footing as hitherto, as you have already been informed. We have issued our Shereefian order to the Oomana of the port of Dar-al-Baida to send you the first fifth, viz., 10,000*l.*, and we command you to receive it from them, and to pay it to the said Company, through the British Representative, and to obtain the receipt for the same.

Peace.

6 Ramadan, 1308.

Inclosure 6 in No. 60.

Memorandum.

(Translation.)

PRAISE be to God. The 50,000*l.* to be paid to the English Company on account of the losses alleged to have been suffered in its trade at Juby shall be distributed over five years.

The first 10,000*l.* shall be paid to the Company on the 10th April, 1891, corresponding to the 1st Ramadan, 1308. (10,000*l.*)

The second 10,000*l.* shall be paid to the Company on the 10th April, 1892, corresponding to the 12th Ramadan, 1309. (10,000*l.*)

The third 10,000*l.* shall be paid to the Company on the 10th April, 1893, corresponding to the 23rd Ramadan, 1310. (10,000*l.*)

The fourth 10,000*l.* shall be paid to the Company on the 10th April, 1894, corresponding to the 4th Shawal, 1311. (10,000*l.*)

The fifth 10,000*l.* shall be paid to the Company on the 10th April, 1895, corresponding to the 15th Shawal, 1312. (10,000*l.*) Equal to 50,000*l.*

No. 61.

North-West Africa Company to Foreign Office.—(Received April 30.)

Sir,

56, Mosley Street, Manchester, April 29, 1891.

YOUR letter of the 27th instant has been forwarded to me. I am much obliged for the information that the sum of 10,000*l.* will at once be paid to the Company as a first instalment (of the indemnity of 50,000*l.*), and a like sum will be paid in each year, the last instalment being paid on the 10th April, 1895.

I shall be glad if the sum named (10,000*l.*) be paid into the London Joint Stock Bank to the credit of the North-West Africa Company (Limited).

I do not know if the bank has any correspondent in Tangier, but I will inquire.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE, *Chairman.*

No. 62.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 2.)

(No. 31.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 23, 1891.

WITH reference to the last paragraph of your Lordship's despatch No. 15 of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that shortly after Sir William

Kirby Green's death, Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu transmitted to me a Memorandum of the claims and various matters that had been brought forward since the arrival of the Mission at the Court. I did not, however, deem it necessary to trouble your Lordship with copies of these somewhat lengthy documents, as the only matters that had been settled at that time were of minor importance, and had never been reported to your Lordship.

There are always a large number of claims put forward by British subjects that have to be laid before the Moorish authorities by Her Majesty's Minister, but it has been the practice of this Legation to avoid, if possible, troubling your Lordship's Department with them, and it is therefore only when they are of some importance, and when every means of obtaining justice has been tried and failed, that a Report is made to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, in order that authority may be obtained to bring greater pressure to bear upon the Moorish Government.

Shortly after arriving at the Court Sir William Kirby Green obtained from the Sultan the appointment of a Commissioner to discuss with Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu the various pending claims, and they were still engaged in this work when Sir William Kirby Green died.

Herewith I inclose a short statement showing the nature of the matters that were then settled, and for which Shereefian letters were handed to Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu a day or two later.

In addition to these matters, Sir William Kirby Green had urged the Sultan to introduce certain improvements at Tangier and the other coast towns, such as the building of suitable stores at the Custom-houses, increase in the number of lighters, the building of moles, cleansing of markets and streets, &c. To some of these applications Sir William Kirby Green was successful in obtaining satisfactory replies, but to others the customary evasive answers were given.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 62.

STATEMENT showing Results obtained at the time of the death of Sir W. Kirby Green in the various matters put forward by him at the Moorish Court.

Claimants or Complainants.	Nature of Claims or Complaints.	Purport of Shereefian Letters obtained.
Mr. Bensaude, of Mogador ..	891 dollars due on commercial accounts	Orders to local Governors to see justice done.
Messrs. Andrews and Co., of Saffi	3,200 dollars due from a number of Moors	Debtors to be sent to Saffi, and Commissioner named to examine claims in conjunction with British Vice-Consul.
Messrs. Hunot and Co., of Saffi ..	Various sums due from a number of Moors	Ditto.
Messrs. Lamb, Brothers, of Saffi ..	Ditto	Ditto.
Mr. Fernan, of Dar-al-Baida ..	81½ dollars paid for recovery of stolen ware; robber known	Orders that robber pay, or be sent to Dar-al-Baida.
Mr. Alvarez, of Dar-al-Baida ..	166 dollars due from Moors. It is alleged that 108 dollars of this amount was collected from the debtors by the Governor, but not paid to claimant	Governor ordered to show how money collected was disposed of.
Messrs. Lamb, Brothers, of Dar-al-Baida	Murder of their semsar, and robbery from him of documents for debts amounting to 1,564 dollars	Order for arrest of man accused of the murder.
Semsar of Messrs. Lamb, Brothers	200 dollars stolen from his agent ..	If proof is produced, money to be paid.
Ditto	Robbery of ten bullocks ..	Ditto.
Captain Smithson, 13th Hussars ..	Case of cartridges seized by Customs officers at Rabat	Cartridges to be restored.
Tangier Cattle Company ..	1,136 dollars for cattle stolen ..	Orders for payment of the amount claimed.
Various merchants ..	Complaint against Governor of the Interior for imprisonment of their agents, and general hostility to those trading with them	A qualified reprimand to Governor. Orders to release agents, and instructions for future guidance.
Ditto	Applications for suitable business premises	Necessary orders given for some of them.

No. 63.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.(No. 5.)
(Telegraphic.) P.
YOUR No. 7.*Foreign Office, May 2, 1891.*

You should pay the Cape Juby indemnity into the London Joint Stock Bank to the credit of the North-West Africa Company, and obtain a proper receipt for the same.

No. 64.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 20.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 2, 1891.

YOUR despatch No. 30 of the 23rd ultimo, relative to the arrangements for the payment of the Cape Juby indemnity, has been received, and I have to state that your proceedings, as reported therein, are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 65.

Foreign Office to North-West Africa Company.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 2, 1891.

WITH reference to my letter of the 12th March last, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit herewith, for your information, copy of a despatch, with its inclosures, addressed by Mr. de Vismes to Her Majesty's Acting Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier reporting the latest steps taken in the matter of the Cape Juby indemnity.*

I am to add that, in accordance with your request, Mr. White has been requested, by telegraph, to pay the amount received into the London Joint Stock Bank to the credit of the North-West Africa Company, against a proper receipt.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 66.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 21.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 4, 1891.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 27 of the 17th ultimo, reporting the settlement of the claim of Cid Boobeker-el-Ghanjawi against the Moorish Government, and I have to request you to convey to Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu my approval of his proceedings in the matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 67.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 22.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 4, 1891.

I APPROVE your proceedings in the case of Hadj Boazza-el-Auni, as reported in your despatch No. 29 of the 23rd ultimo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

* Inclosures 4, 5, and 6 in No. 60.

No. 68.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 7.)

(No. 33.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 1, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, reporting on the attitude of the Moorish Government regarding the claims of British subjects at Mogador.

The Vizier Gharneet desired Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu to accept the mode of settlement agreed upon between the Moorish Government and the Austrian Minister, without, as it appears, explaining what this mode of settlement was. Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, on the other hand, insisted on adhering to the arrangement made by Sir John Drummond Hay, communicated in his despatch to Lord Rosebery No. 8 of the 6th March, 1886, which would insure justice being done to the British subjects, as far as practicable, without exposing the debtors to the cruelties too often arising out of claims of foreigners.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 68.

Mr. de Vismes to Mr. White.

Sir,

Morocco, April 19, 1891.

I BEG to report to you that in the course of an interview I had to-day with Cid Emfadh Gharneet, his Excellency put into my hands two Shereefian letters containing instructions to the Governor and Oomana of Mogador to settle the pending local British claims in the same manner as the Austrian local claims were in course of settlement, and to refer in the matter to Cid Mahommed Kassara, who was encharged with the treatment of the Austrian claims.

I objected to take charge of these Shereefian orders for communication to the authorities in question through the British official channel, as I could not fail to perceive that this might be construed into an acceptance on the part of the British Legation of whatever arrangement might have been entered into between this Government and the Austrian Legation in these matters as regulating the procedure to be observed in the settlement of British claims. I pointed out to Cid Emfadh Gharneet that not only had the British Legation no knowledge of that which it was asked to acquiesce in, but that there was a set of Regulations actually in force in the matter of the settlement of claims which had been framed by Sir John Drummond Hay and accepted by the Sultan, and that these could not be set aside without a mutual understanding in the matter. This is the third time that I have felt myself bound to urge this point on the consideration of Moorish officials, and the third time that I have witnessed an attempt on their part to ignore the existence of the Regulations in question.

Cid Emfadh desired to be informed whether Great Britain claimed to stand on a different footing to all other nations as regards the settlement of the claims of its subjects, and whether it desired to enforce their settlement by violence, or in accordance with right and justice.

I could only say that the conduct of British affairs could in no way be affected by arrangements entered into by the Shereefian Government with other Legations to which Her Majesty's Legation was no party, and that past experience of British dealings with this country furnished a sufficient answer to the second part of his query; not only so, but the Regulations to which I alluded were framed with a special view to averting injustice in the enforcement of claims.

This at last drew from Cid Emfadh Gharneet the admission that he knew these Regulations, and had communicated with Sir John Drummond Hay on their subject.

Finally, after having, in a great state of excitement, torn up the two Shereefian letters, and observed that I evidently was yet unacquainted with affairs in Morocco, and that he required a Minister to negotiate affairs with him, Cid Gharneet promised that he would endeavour to procure letters more in accordance with my views.

In reply to the attack aimed at myself, I ventured to observe to his Excellency that the Marquis of Salisbury apparently held a different opinion, as I faithfully

reported to the Foreign Office all my dealings with this Government, and I was just in receipt, for the third time, of his Lordship's approval of my proceedings.

In the course of his excitement, Cid Gharneet informed me that there were no claims at Mogador, and requested me, if they existed, to provide him with a list of them.

When I reminded him that not only had they been fully communicated by me to Cid Hined Kerdudi, under Sir William Kirby Green's instructions, but that I had since provided his Excellency with a separate list of them, he asserted, without any reservation, that they were all unfounded. I requested his Excellency, if he desired to maintain this ground, to communicate his view to me in writing.

I have thought it right to report this whole incident, together with its last-mentioned feature, in order to mark, on the one hand, the persistent attempts made to ignore and override the Regulations established by common accord in the matter of the settlement of British claims, and to point, on the other hand, to the probability that whatever orders are issued, there is no serious intention that they should lead to a definite settlement of the pending affairs.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

No. 69.

North-West Africa Company to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 8.)

My Lord,
132, Cheapside, London, May 7, 1891.
I BEG to acknowledge, on behalf of the Directors, the receipt of Sir P. J. Currie's letter of the 2nd instant, and of the inclosures therein referred to.

The London Joint-Stock Bank will give formal receipt for the amount paid into their hands to the credit of the Company, and will also advise the Company of the payment. The Directors will thereupon forward to your Lordship a proper receipt under the seal of the Company.

I am, &c.
(The North-West Africa Company, Limited),
(Signed) GEO. RAYNOR, Secretary.

No. 70.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 24.)
Sir,
Foreign Office, May 9, 1891.
I HAVE received your despatch No. 33 of the 1st instant, and I have to request you to convey to Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu my approval of his proceedings in regard to the claims of British subjects at Mogador.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 71.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 25.)
Sir,
Foreign Office, May 9, 1891.
WITH reference to your despatch No. 30 of the 23rd ultimo, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter from the North-West Africa Company,* stating that a formal receipt will be given by the London Joint-Stock Bank for the amount paid into their hands to the credit of the Company in respect of the Cape Juby indemnity.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

* No. 69.

No. 72.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 12.)

(No. 35. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Tangier, May 5, 1891.

I HAVE hitherto refrained from making any report to your Lordship as to the objects of the Mission of the French Minister to the Moorish Court, as I have found it quite impossible to ascertain which of the many contradictory reports that have reached me are correct, and I have been hoping to succeed in obtaining more reliable information. As, however, I see no immediate prospect of obtaining such information, the other foreign Representatives being apparently as much in the dark as myself, I think I should no longer defer placing your Lordship in possession of the reports that have reached me.

I should perhaps premise that the present Mission has attracted additional attention on account of the mystery with which M. Patenôtre has chosen to enshroud it, endeavouring, even up to the moment of his departure, to give it the appearance of a mere pleasure trip which he might possibly take after visiting the Vice-Consulates on the coast, although it is known that the Mission was resolved upon by the French Government when M. Patenôtre was at Paris last winter after having seen the Sultan at Rabat.

Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu reports that Cid Boobeker positively assures him that the French are endeavouring to obtain the Sultan's acquiescence in their absorbing the Tuat Oasis into Algeria, but that, on the other hand, Cid Emfadl Gharneet had denied that M. Patenôtre had made any such overtures, though he admitted that there was some question as to the frontier in that region, and that a Saleb named Reshdi had been sent to Tuat by the Sultan with a body of sixty men to inquire into and settle the point.

In a private letter dated the 20th ultimo, Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu states that a rumour was current in Morocco city that M. Patenôtre had obtained the Sultan's consent to a railway passing through Figuig and Tuat, that Cid Boobeker had assured him that it was no idle bazaar rumour, but an absolute fact, and that, although the Vizier Gharneet still denied not only that any such Concession had been obtained, but even that it had been asked for, his manner did not impress confidence, and he did not believe him.

Unfortunately, but little reliance can be placed upon the assurances of Cid Emfadl Gharneet, whose want of regard for truth is proverbial in Morocco.

Additional probability is lent to the rumour of the French designs on Tuat by the fact that there is a strong current of public opinion in France and Algeria in favour of the proposed Trans-Saharan Railway connecting Algeria with Timbuctoo and Senegal on the one hand, and Lake Tchad and the Congo on the other.

Of the two lines proposed, the western, or that by the way of Ain Sefra, Figuig, Tgli, and Tuat seems to possess the greatest natural advantages, as well as being some 150 miles the shorter; moreover, its strategic importance is not likely to be lost sight of by the French Government.

A French railway following this line of river and oasis would entail as an inevitable consequence the advancement of the Algerian frontier so as to embrace it, which after all would merely amount to an advancement of the frontier in accordance with most French Maps now published, in which the line of demarcation of French territory is made to pass somewhat to the west of this projected line of railway, i.e., some 3 degrees beyond the frontier as marked in the French War Office Map of 1848, from which it is clear that at that time at any rate Tuat was acknowledged by the French Government to be within the Sultan's dominions.

I have lately seen a pamphlet published in Oran by a French Engineer, entitled "Le Trans-Saharan et la Pacification de l'Algérie et de nos Possessions de l'Afrique Occidentale," in which a study is made of their line, and in which its many advantages to France are pointed out. The author quotes the following passage from Dr. Gerard Rohlfs, showing the opinion formed by that traveller after a visit to Tuat in 1864 of the importance to France of that province:—

"Avant tout les Français devraient transporter leur frontière jusqu'à l'Oued Messaoura, s'emparer de cette rivière et de ses affluents, ce qui entraînerait la soumission du Touat; c'est d'ici, en effet, que partent toutes les difficultés, tous les désordres; et tant qu'ils n'occuperont pas ces frontières naturelles, il n'y aura aucun calme durable dans le sud de la province."

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It is most necessary for me to point out to your Lordship the serious, I may almost say fatal, blow that would be dealt to British trade with that portion of the Soudan, were the French to be successful in annexing to Algeria the important Oasis of Tuat—the point of junction of the various caravan routes to Timbuctoo and the Soudan.

Experience of French commercial policy in Algeria and Tunis can leave no doubt as to the treatment British goods would be subjected to should they unfortunately have to cross a French frontier to penetrate the Soudan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 73.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 26. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 12, 1891.

I HAVE to call your attention to Nos. 4 and 5* in the inclosed section of confidential printed correspondence respecting the affairs of Morocco.

You will perceive that the North-West Africa Company have received offers for the purchase of a part of the territory owned or claimed by the Company in the vicinity of Cape Juby.

The proposals made by Sir W. K. Green in his despatch No. 6 of the 21st February relative to the territory between Wad Draa and Cape Bojador have been considered by Her Majesty's Government, who are of opinion that arrangements should, if possible, be made for preventing that territory from falling into the hands of any European Power. Sir C. Smith will be furnished with instructions on this point when he takes up his appointment, and, in the meantime, you should carefully watch the state of affairs in the district, and report to me anything that may appear to you of importance in connection with it.

I am informed that the Cape Juby Company has no intention of accepting in any shape the offer referred to in the Memorandum, but it is not unlikely that attempts may be made by the parties interested to obtain access to the lands by other means.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 74.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(Separate.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 16, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th March,† I have to furnish you with the following general instructions for your guidance.

I inclose, for your confidential information, the accompanying volumes of printed correspondence respecting the affairs of North Africa and Morocco, which will put you in possession of all that has recently passed on the more important questions which will engage your attention.

You will observe that it has been the constant aim of Her Majesty's Government and of your predecessors at Tangier to preserve the independence and territorial integrity of the Empire of Morocco, while neglecting no favourable opportunity of impressing upon the Sultan and his Ministers the importance and advantage of improving the government and administration of the country.

Unfortunately their efforts in this direction have hitherto been unsuccessful, and herein lies the great danger of the situation, as the decess of the present Sultan will in all probability give rise to internal disturbances the issue of which it is impossible to foresee.

The views held in common by Great Britain, Italy, and Spain with regard to the maintenance of the territorial *status quo* in Morocco are recorded in a collective note addressed to the Sultan by the Representatives of those Powers on the 12th March,

* Nos. 52 and 53.

† Not printed.

1887. A copy of this note is inclosed in Sir K. Green's despatch No. 37, Confidential, of the same date.

An acknowledgment by the Sultan that he considers himself bound by and will follow the terms of this collective note will be found in Sir K. Green's despatch No. 20, Confidential, of the 27th February, 1890.

Subsequent arrangements, having mainly for their object the maintenance of the *status quo* in the Mediterranean, have been entered into by the Governments of Italy and Spain, the particulars of which you will find recorded in the papers noted in the margin.*

Bearing in mind the general principles of policy indicated above, it should be your constant endeavour to maintain a good understanding with the Sultan and his Ministers, and to act in cordial co-operation with your colleagues, the Representatives of the other Powers, in promoting as far as may be in your power the good government and material development of the country.

Questions arising out of the establishment by the North-West Africa Company of a trading factory at Cape Juby have given rise to a voluminous correspondence.

Copies of various Memoranda are inclosed,† which furnish in a succinct form a history of the negotiations.

The claims of the Company arising out of the interference of the Moorish authorities with their operations have been recently settled by your predecessor upon the occasion of his visit to the Moorish Court.

For the particulars of this agreement I have to refer you to Sir K. Green's despatches Nos. 3, 5, and 6 of the 12th, 13th, and 21st February respectively, and to Mr. White's No. 30 of the 23rd April.

It will be your duty to see that the yearly instalments of 10,000*l.* which the Sultan has agreed to pay in satisfaction of the Company's claims are punctually discharged.

Sir J. Lee, the Chairman of the North-West Africa Company, has recently informed this Office that he has received an offer from Belgium for the purchase of a part of the land owned or claimed by the Company at Cape Juby, but he has been privately advised not to agree to any scheme which would tend to introduce foreign influence into the territories in which the Company is interested.

In his despatch No. 6 of the 21st February last Sir K. Green submitted that it might be advisable to assert, without delay, this country's priority of right over the slip of coast between the Wady Draa and Cape Bojador. From Sir E. Hertslet's Memorandum of the 5th March you will perceive, however, that there are difficulties in the way of establishing a British Protectorate in that region.

Under these circumstances it might be advisable to come to some arrangement with the Sultan by which his rights of sovereignty should be recognized over the coast from Cape Juby to Cape Bojador, and the territory behind it, on condition that he should give full commercial and mineral rights to the Company on the coast and in the territories in question, and should undertake not to alienate them, or any portion of them, without the consent of Her Majesty's Government.

I should be glad to receive a Report from you on this subject as soon as you have had time to study the question in all its bearings.

In 1880 a Conference was held at Madrid to consider the question of the protection of Moorish subjects by the Representatives of foreign Powers.

The Convention elaborated at the Conference has not, however, worked satisfactorily, and in 1887 the Spanish Government made a formal proposal that the Conference should be reassembled at Madrid to consider a request preferred by the Moorish Government for the modification of its provisions.

A voluminous correspondence ensued, but a change of Ministry subsequently occurred in Spain, and the project was then abandoned.

In connection with this subject I would call your attention to Sir W. K. Green's despatch No. 55 of the 27th April, 1888, in which he suggested the establishment of Mixed Native Tribunals as a means by which the protection of all natives, except those in the employment of Legations and Consular establishments, might be abandoned.

Similar suggestions have been made from other quarters, but, as Mr. White has pointed out in a recent despatch, No. 20 of the 3rd April, it would be necessary that any such scheme should be very carefully worked out before a formal proposal for the establishment of such Tribunals could be made with any prospect of success.

Lastly, I have to call your attention to Sir K. Green's despatch No. 22 of the

* Nos. 47 and 51.

† Memoranda: January 8 and September 22, 1890; and *ante*, Nos. 21 and 53.

13th March, 1890, in which the question of improving the commercial relations of foreign Powers with Morocco is referred to, and the opinion is expressed that joint action on the part of the Powers interested in the welfare of that country affords the only chance of inducing the Sultan to alter his present policy of isolation from civilization.

Sir K. Green's communications with his foreign colleagues on this subject will be found in his despatch No. 34 of the 16th April, 1890, and on the 20th May, 1890 (No. 39), he was instructed to prepare, in concert with his colleagues, a draft of a note to the Moorish Government urging the acceptance of a Commercial Treaty similar to that proposed by the British, German, and French Representatives in 1886.

He did not, however, find his colleagues disposed to take any active steps in the matter, although they were prepared to refer to their respective Governments for instructions.

In the meantime, the German Minister, upon the occasion of his visit to the Moorish Court, succeeded in inducing the Sultan to sign a Commercial Convention with Germany, the particulars of which are given in Sir K. Green's despatch No. 48 of the 11th June, 1890. His Excellency explained, however, that the Convention would not be ratified unless the other Governments interested in the matter gave their adhesion to it.

Under these circumstances Sir W. K. Green suggested that an impartial and careful study should be made of the provisions of the new German Convention before taking further action with a view to obtain larger concessions from the Sultan.

On the 4th November last Sir K. Green was informed that Her Majesty's Government did not raise any objection to the ratification of the Commercial Convention between Germany and Morocco, but he was directed, when communicating this decision to the Moorish Government, to add that Her Majesty's Government took this opportunity of reminding them that Commercial Agreements on a broader basis would conduce to the prosperity and safety of the Sultan's kingdom.

The question has not advanced beyond this point at the present moment.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 75.

Mr. de Vismes to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 25.)

My Lord,

Morocco, May 4, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that after a stay at Morocco protracted much beyond what I was originally led to expect I have been able to overcome the objections raised by the Sultan against your Lordship's interpretation of the arrangement proposed by His Majesty for the settlement of the North-West Africa Company's claim, according to which the payment of the five yearly instalments of 10,000*l.* was to begin immediately. I have obtained the issue of a Shereefian letter to Hadj Mohammed Torres laying down that these instalments are to be paid on the 10th April of each year, beginning with the present, up to extinction of the debt, with orders to pay the first instalment as soon as the amount shall have been received from the Administrator of Customs at the port of Dar-al-Baida. I regret to be compelled to add that I have not succeeded in getting the better of the Sultan's prejudice against making, as he regards it, his seal the object of barter, by providing the Company with a document of the nature suggested by Sir William Kirby Green; but it has been intimated to me that this difficulty can be overcome by having recourse to the same proceeding as was resorted to in the case of the loan contracted in England by the Shereefian Government for the payment of their debt to Spain, namely, that the Company should be provided with a notarial copy of the Shereefian letter in the hands of Hadj Mohammed Torres.

In the course of the very long period which it has taken me to arrive at this result I have had the satisfaction of being able to obtain the settlement of a vexatious pending claim brought by the British protégé Cid Bubecker-il-Ghanjowi, against the Governor of Morocco city, for arbitrary sequestration of his landed property here, which has been compromised by the payment of an indemnity of 10,000 dollars to Cid Bubecker, and of prevailing upon the Moorish Government to take, at least ostensible, steps for the settlement of local claims pending at Dar-al-Baida and Mogador.

Apart from this, I cannot disguise from your Lordship that the results of my long-protracted stay here have fallen somewhat short of what I was entitled to expect owing

to the demeanour observed towards me by the Minister for Foreign Affairs since the departure of the rest of the Mission. Cid Emfadl Gharnit has surpassed himself in procrastinating tactics towards me. Though he attributes the unwarrantable delay which has taken place in settling the few matters with which I had to engage his attention to the difficulty there is in obtaining a decision of His Shereefian Majesty in any affair, I cannot altogether avoid the suspicion that there has been from the first a settled purpose of either causing my departure *re infecta* by tiring out my patience, or of punishing me by a wearisome course of temporization for having persisted in remaining here after the receipt of the Shereefian letters mentioned by me in my despatch to your Lordship of the 3rd March, none of which bore on any very important subject, whilst some have already been found to be valueless. Immediately after the receipt of your Lordship's instructions in the matter of the Juby claim, Cid Emfadl Gharnit caused an intimation to be conveyed to me, through a confidential source, that if I would be patient [*sic*] all the matters I had referred to his Government would be settled by the 30th March. His promise was not made good, and during the week that followed I was put off from midday to evening, and from evening to noon, without any result ensuing. At the end of this time I was informed that the last days of the month of Shaaban, which are kept by the Moslems of this country as a kind of carnival, having arrived, the Sultan would not attend to business till the 1st of Ramadan had dawned, and that therefore no work could be gone through up till that time. In this manner a further week was lost. I was entitled, under the circumstances, and in view of the fair promises showered upon me by the Moorish Minister, to expect that no time would be lost in terminating the affairs in question during the first few days of Ramadan. I found, however, that the same tactics as heretofore were reopened, though, ultimately, letters of settlement in the matter of the Juby claim and a few others were given me one by one. In short, I have witnessed throughout, on the part of the Moorish Government, the now traditional policy of doing the least possible, taking the utmost credit for the smallest concession made to the demands or wishes of Her Majesty's Government or of the British Legation, and measuring the magnitude of results by the extent of the difficulty, however unwarranted, opposed by them to their realization. I have even, on one or two occasions, observed a tone of an almost offensive nature on their part, when they have appeared to insinuate that Great Britain is attempting to assume in this country a privileged position which the Moorish Government are in no way disposed to recognize and with this is coupled a tendency to disregard Treaties and arrangements entered into specially by Great Britain with Morocco, as if British subjects could only lay claim to the most-favoured-nation treatment.

I have little doubt that the prevalence of such a tone is partly to be accounted for by the interested suggestions of the adversaries of British policy, who will hardly have failed to avail themselves of the known tenacity of the Sultan to his notions regarding his sovereignty over the districts south of the Draa, in order to point to Great Britain as the first violator of that territorial integrity over which, by the collective note of March 1887, she claims to keep a watchful eye, whilst I have reliable information that the Sultan's failure to accept the advantageous terms proffered to him by Her Majesty's Government regarding Cape Juby is due to advice solicited of and received from some of the foreign Legations at Tangier, among whom the Italian Legation probably stands prominent.

I trust that the explanations offered above, for the lengthiness of which I crave your Lordship's indulgence, will have satisfied your Lordship that I have not unduly prolonged my stay at Morocco, and that your Lordship will approve the view taken by me that it would have been undesirable to crown with success the tactics which have been employed against me by an earlier withdrawal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

No. 76.

Mr. de Vismes to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 25.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

Morocco, May 5, 1891.

IT will be within your Lordship's knowledge that M. Patenôtre, the French Minister accredited to the Sultan of Morocco, arrived at this Court on the 8th March

last, having been preceded here, by about a month, by the Interpreter of his Legation, M. Hélouis.

During the last few days which elapsed before his arrival I received information, through a perfectly reliable source, that his advent here was looked upon in Court circles with an apprehension bordering on panic, so much so, that a suggestion had even been thrown out to His Shereefian Majesty, by a high official who is credited with friendly leanings towards Great Britain, that His Majesty would do well in this dilemma to seek British protection. In this state of things it was a matter of great concern to me that I was unable, through the said or any other source, to ascertain precisely the determining cause of the feelings occasioned by an event of so ordinary occurrence as the visit of a French Minister to the Shereefian Court. Not only so, but throughout the course of the negotiations in which M. Patenôtre, who is now on the eve of his departure, has been engaged, I have found it impossible to gather more than the smallest gleanings of reliable information regarding their subject-matter. I believe myself, however, to have gained a correct insight into the nature of M. Patenôtre's policy, which is principally fashioned with a view to insuring, as far as possible, the absolute secrecy of all that passes between him and this Government. I am informed and believe that M. Patenôtre refuses to treat or discuss matters regarded by him as of paramount importance otherwise than directly with the Sultan, to overawe whom the French Minister has discovered to be a matter of no great difficulty; whilst an attitude of benevolent inaction on the part of Cid Emfadi Gharnit is secured by means well known to be omnipotent in this country. I have been confirmed in this opinion by the manner in which the Foreign Minister has met all attempts on my part to elicit information as to the matters under negotiation with M. Patenôtre.

Another feature in M. Patenôtre's policy which rouses the suspicion of people who are acquainted with the past history of French dealings with Morocco is the levity with which he ostensibly meets the obstructive tactics of the Moorish Government in all minor matters, and his apparent extreme readiness to fall in with Moorish views even on such a question as that of the foreign protection of natives of this country. Such a departure from hitherto French traditions leads to the conclusion that M. Patenôtre has been engaged in the treatment of affairs of the utmost gravity, on which he is desirous of bringing the whole weight of his influence to bear, while smoothing the way for their successful termination by impressing the Moors with a sense of his friendly disposition towards them.

Now that the French Mission has practically come to an end, I have been able, by putting together the various and, in part, conflicting statements I have heard from different sources, including the official ones, to arrive at some conclusion as to its aims and results, which I venture to think is the nearest attainable approximation to the truth, and which I am accordingly emboldened to communicate to your Lordship.

There is no doubt that very great importance was attached by M. Patenôtre to the demand put forward on behalf of an Association of French subjects to be commissioned to coin 4,000,000 dollars for the Government of Morocco, which demand was brought into existence through Italian attempts to supersede rights claimed by the aforesaid Association, to be acquired by them in virtue of an Agreement entered into by this Government while the notorious M. Héquard was Dragoman to the French Legation in Morocco. It is also evident that considerable resistance was opposed by the Moorish Government to the French demand, owing to real or imaginary losses accruing to them out of the transaction, as first proposed by the French Legation, while it is equally certain that any differences in the matter between the two parties have now been adjusted, and that M. Patenôtre has gained his point, the contract for the coining of the 4,000,000 dollars having been definitely concluded, whereby the species of monopoly claimed by France of the right of coining money for the Government of Morocco has come to an end in terms of the original Agreement. To people well acquainted with the peculiarities of Moorish thought, the pendency of these negotiations will account in some degree for the state of mental perturbation which marked the beginning of the French Minister's stay here. On the other hand, it is whispered that M. Patenôtre is himself interested in the undertaking, and that its success has inclined him to leniency with the Moorish Government in the other matters under treatment.

However this may be, there is no doubt whatever that frontier questions have been kept well to the fore during the whole of M. Patenôtre's mission, and that some agreement has been entered into between France and Morocco which bids fair to lead to a rectification of the Mauro-Algerian frontier along the whole line, though it appears that the most important, at least according to Moorish views, of the questions at issue was connected with the Oasis of Tuat. I do not believe that any cession of territory has

been agreed to in principle by the Sultan, but His Majesty has dispatched to the frontier districts a Commissioner, the Tabb Reshidi, with orders to investigate and presumably to settle the matters at variance between the two Governments. It is regarded as too probable to admit of any question that this Commissioner will be prevailed upon to adopt the French view of every matter coming within his cognizance, while it is even averred by people whose knowledge of the country gives weight to their declarations that the aforesaid official is actually in French pay. In spite of all this, it may yet possibly result that the Sultan has achieved one more diplomatic triumph of the kind so familiar to the statesmen of Morocco, and has succeeded in evading by the dispatch of this Commissioner a satisfaction of the demands put forward by M. Patenôtre.

In spite of prevalent rumours to the effect that the French had received permission to carry their trans-Saharan line across Figuig, Tafilelt, and Tuat, I do not believe that any Concession for the building of a railway over Moorish territory has been obtained. It would appear most probable that if any deep-laid scheme exists for bringing about a rectification of the Mauro-Algerian frontier, its results would be awaited before bringing to a head any projects for the continuation of the trans-Saharan railway, or others of a similar nature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEU.

No. 77.

Mr. de Vismes to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 25.)

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

Morocco, May 6, 1891.

ON the eve of my departure from Morocco city, where I have now been above four months, I think I should be failing in my duty were I to omit to place your Lordship in possession of knowledge I have acquired through authorities worthy of every credence, which places the internal state of this country in a very grave light.

During the course of my stay here sundry rumours have come to my ears regarding the threatening attitude of the Berber tribes inhabiting the mountain districts situated between this and Fez. Though a state of so-called rebellion against the Sultan's Government is normal with these mountaineers, and though the reports that the cities of Fez and Mequinez were actually at their mercy, and, so to say, in a state of siege, were doubtless exaggerated, still the persistence of the disquieting rumours emanating from that direction leave little room for doubt that a movement of unwonted importance has been in progress in the Berber country, stimulated probably by a reverse suffered last autumn by the Sultan's advance guard at the hands of the Ait Shohman tribe, on which occasion several Berber contingents, who were operating in conjunction with the Shereefian forces, turned the fortune of the day by deserting over to their kinsmen.

The Sultan's obvious policy has always been to take advantage of intertribal jealousies, and, where possible, sow division among his unruly subjects. The alarming feature of the present situation is that the current reports, however exaggerated in form, seem distinctly to point to the uprising of a Berber league. There is no disguising the apprehension which is felt by high and low among the Sultan's following at the prospect of a summer expedition against the Berbers. Fear of the mountains and their inhabitants is constitutional in the Moorish soldier, but in the present case very strong counsels have been brought to bear upon the Sultan to induce His Majesty to abandon the projected reopening of the campaign against the Ait Shohman this year. The Sultan, for wise reasons, keeps his real movements a profound secret to the last moment. Speculations regarding them, on the other hand, are rife, and whilst some aver that he will attempt a decisive blow by striking across the heart of the Berber country to Tafilelt, others—and probably the best informed—opine that he will choose a middle course between an adventurous policy and complete inactivity, and content himself with a military promenade to Rabat previous to establishing his quarters at Fez, thereby making a show which will inspire the Berbers with respect, whilst avoiding any actual friction with them.

Less gravity might perhaps be assigned to any agitation among the Sultan's Berber subjects were it not for the universal disorganization which pervades the whole fabric of the Moorish State. There exists among the Moorish people a deep-rooted and growing discontent at the iniquitous system under which they are governed, and the reckless manner in which the country is drained dry of its resources through two successive

governing strata, the Provincial and Local Governors and the Sultan's Ministers, into the Treasury.

The Governor's duty may be defined as that of keeping those under his jurisdiction at the lowest possible ebb of worldly prosperity, and of sending a liberal share of the spoil he masses to the Imperial fund. There is no administrative crime or offence which cannot be wiped out by an extraordinary contribution to the Treasury, and even persevered in for such consideration. In the same manner a delinquent Kaïd acquires advocates at the Shereefian Court among the Ministers and high officials of State. More than this, orders of an unwelcome nature, which have been actually issued by the Sultan, are trafficked away by his Ministers, who undertake to smooth over the difficulties attendant on non-compliance with them.

This explains in a great measure the unbounded difficulties experienced in obtaining justice for British subjects or their employés where country Governors are concerned. Among certain of these a tone and attitude of hostility to European, or at least British, interests almost beyond endurance, have arisen of late, while many fear not to express in open terms their contempt for Shereefian mandates.

Such deep-seated corruption as prevails in this country cannot fail to, and does, produce a general habit of distrust between man and man, even among those connected with each other by the closest ties, and universal mutual distrust between the members of the Government is apt to breed a want of confidence in the Government as a whole in itself. So much is this felt that the possible advantages of foreign rule is a subject that has actually begun to be mooted, and such a frame of the public mind, coupled with a state of internal strife and seething anarchy, is singularly well calculated to favour the designs of any, and especially a bordering country, having proclivities for encroachment in this direction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEU.

No. 78.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 25.)

(No. 37.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 18, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 30 of the 23rd April, I have the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, reporting that he has been unable to obtain from the Sultan His Majesty's note of hand for delivery to the North-West Africa Company, as suggested by Her Majesty's late Minister.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received from Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres bills of exchange for 10,000*l.*, being the amount of the first instalment of the indemnity to be paid.

I have transmitted these bills to the London Joint Stock Bank as requested.
H. E. W.

Inclosure in No. 78.

Mr. de Vismes to Mr. White.

Morocco, May 1, 1891.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th ultimo, I regret to have to report that the Sultan has refused to furnish me with anything in the nature of a negotiable instrument bearing his seal to be placed in the hands of the North-West Africa Company, on the ground that the letters already issued by this Government are sufficient to answer all purposes, and that in the case of the loan contracted by the Shereefian Government in England many years ago, no such documents as the one now required was given.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEU.

No. 79.

Foreign Office to Sir J. Lee.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 26, 1891.

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 2nd instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that the Sultan of Morocco has declined to furnish a note of hand for 50,000*l.*, the amount of the Cape Juby indemnity, on the ground that the letters which he has already caused to be issued are sufficient to answer all purposes.

I am to add that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier has received from the Moorish Government bills of exchange for 10,000*l.*, the amount of the first instalment of the indemnity, and that he has transmitted these bills to the London Joint Stock Bank in accordance with your request.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 80.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 28.)

(No. 40. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 20, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 35, Confidential, of the 5th instant, I have the honour to report that the French Minister arrived here on the 16th instant on his return from the Moorish Court.

I have not yet had an opportunity of speaking with M. Patenôtre on the subjects of the rumoured French designs on Tuat and the projected railway through that district, but the Italian Minister informs me that he had mentioned the matter to M. Patenôtre, who had replied in a bantering tone that he would not recommend him to take any shares in the concern, but had added that though the Trans-Saharan Railway was but a project at present, it would be a fact in ten, twenty, or thirty years. It appears that in speaking to the German Minister, M. Patenôtre said the railway would be laid within ten years.

There can, I think, be little doubt that during M. Patenôtre's mission, the question of the frontier was treated not merely in connection with Tuat, but also with the neighbourhood of Figuig, where it is said the French had advanced to Oulad Teres.

M. Cantagalli, when talking of the matter this morning, informed me that in consequence of the rumours that had reached him, he had considered it his duty to make a report to his Government, and he proceeded to read to me the reply he had received from the Marquis di Rudini, which was to the following effect:

If the delimitation of the frontier which the French Government wished to carry out was to be on the basis of the *status quo*, M. Cantagalli was authorized to advise the Sultan to give his consent; but if it were desired to introduce any rectification of the frontier, M. Cantagalli was directed to inform the Sultan's Ministers and his colleagues, not excluding the French Minister, that the Italian Government would regard any alteration of the *status quo* as injurious to themselves, and would have to concert with the other Powers interested as to the steps that should be taken.

The Marquis di Rudini, in conclusion, directed M. Cantagalli to communicate his instructions to his British, Spanish, German, and Austrian colleagues.

M. Cantagalli further informed me that he had addressed a letter to the Sultan, acquainting His Majesty with the reports that had reached Tangier, and warning him against surrendering any portion of his territories to France, reminding His Majesty also of the joint note of March 1887, and of his promise to give timely notice should any encroachment on his frontier be attempted, pointing to the case of the Spanish demand for Kbdana as an example of the efficacy of the action of the friendly Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 81.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received May 28.)(No. 41.)
My Lord,

Tangier, May 20, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 9 of the 28th February, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the question of the coining of money was settled whilst M. Patenôtre was at the Moorish Court, by the Sultan giving an order to the French Company represented by M. Gaiffe for 20,000,000 fr. worth of small silver pieces to be coined in France—the French Company waiving all rights to coin money in future.

I understand that a great deal of pressure had to be brought to bear upon the Sultan by M. Patenôtre to obtain this order, as there is a considerable loss to His Majesty on this order; but it appears that the French Company held a paper which had been obtained by M. Hecquard, and which they maintained granted them the monopoly of coining money for His Majesty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 82.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.(No. 65.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, May 28, 1891.

I HAVE received a despatch from Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, dated the 4th instant, reporting the steps which he had taken to obtain the immediate payment by the Sultan of Morocco of the first of the five yearly instalments of the Cape Juby indemnity, as well as the settlement of certain other pending British claims; and I have to inform you that Mr. de Vismes' proceedings are entirely approved.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 83.

North-West Africa Company to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 1.)

My Lord,

132, Cheapside, London, May 30, 1891.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 26th instant, addressed to Sir J. Lee, the Chairman of the Company, and to state that we are informed by the London Joint Stock Bank that bills have been received by them from Tangier representing 10,000l. on behalf of the Company.

A formal receipt under the seal of the Company shall follow.

I am, &c.
(The North-West African Company, Limited),
(Signed) GEO. RAYNOR, Secretary.

No. 84.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 9.)

(No. 43. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 2, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 26 of the 12th ultimo, regarding the negotiations of certain Belgians to obtain for their Government a footing in the vicinity of Cape Juby, and directing me to carefully watch the state of affairs in that district.

Any Power that may desire to obtain a footing on the territory comprised between Cape Bogador and Wad Draa would probably be very careful to prevent any suspicion of their intention being raised in Morocco until they could announce a *fait accompli*; I will,

however, endeavour to obtain early information of any occurrence that may appear connected therewith.

Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador being in a better position to obtain, through the Canary Islands, news of passing events at Cape Juby, I have directed him to report to me anything that may appear of importance, and I have also taken steps to obtain confidential information from a friend at the Moorish Court should anything be known there on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 85.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 2.)

(No. 47.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 25, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that news has reached Tangier that the Sultan left Morocco city on the 15th instant on his march to Rabat, whence he will proceed to Mequinez and Fez.

The Ait Shokhman and neighbouring Berber tribes having made their submission, it is not expected that His Shereefian Majesty will undertake any military operations, especially as the ravages of the locusts will make it difficult to obtain a sufficient supply of forage for the large body of troops that always accompany His Majesty. It is, however, possible that he will make some stay at Tedla, which is the nearest district to the mountains inhabited by the unruly tribes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 86.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 50.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 30, 1891.

IT is now some six or seven months since two young Scotch missionaries, Mr. Nairn and Mr. Clarke, arrived at Morocco city, and commenced work among the Moors of that town.

On their first arrival but little notice, as I am told, was taken of them, but it appears that, through want of caution, they have been gradually exciting a feeling of hostility amongst the natives. The first report to this effect that reached me was through a private letter from Kaïd Maclean, dated the 10th instant, in which he observed that he feared the missionaries were likely to cause trouble in Morocco through their imprudence, and that it was very desirable that they should be induced to leave that city.

On receipt of this letter, I spoke to a missionary at Tangier on the subject, and he promised to cause a warning to be conveyed to Messrs. Nairn and Clarke. A day or two later Hadj Mohamed Torres mentioned to me that he had received instructions from the Court to speak to me on the subject of the missionaries at Morocco and elsewhere, and to request me to endeavour to restrain them, as the fanaticism of the people was being aroused, and it was feared that serious consequences might result; as an example of their imprudence, he mentioned that some lady missionaries at Rabat enter the Mussulman cemeteries to converse on religious subjects with the Moorish women sitting at the graves of their relatives.

Shortly afterwards, the report reached Tangier that, on the 13th instant, a Frenchman, passing quietly along one of the streets at Morocco, was suddenly, and without provocation, stabbed by a fanatical Moor.

The French Minister, speaking to me on the subject, stated that the attack on the Frenchman was generally attributed to the fanatical hatred of Christians which has lately been aroused through the injudicious preaching of the Scotch missionaries in that town, and he communicated to me an extract of a letter he had lately received from a member of the French Military Mission at Morocco, copy of which I have the honour to transmit herewith.

The German Dragoman also, who has just returned from Morocco, states that he

noticed lately a marked change in the demeanour of the Moors towards Christians, and he attributes this to the indiscreet action of the missionaries.

Fearing that unless a check can at once be put on the proceedings of these missionaries, the smouldering fanaticism of the Moors may burst into flame with terrible consequences, not only to the missionaries themselves, but also to other Christians, who probably have no desire for a martyr's crown, I have lost no time in addressing a warning to Messrs. Nairn and Clarke, reminding them of the grave responsibility that would rest on them should any loss of life be brought about by their action, and I also directed the Vice-Consul at Rabat to warn the missionaries in that town not to enter the cemetery, and to exercise great caution in their work.

It is much to be regretted that the want of tact of a few of the Protestant missionaries in this country should in a great measure counteract and undo the really good work that is being done in a quiet and unostentatious manner by others, who by their tender ministration to the poor and sick have been steadily gaining the respect and esteem of all.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 86.

Communication by French Minister.

L'INDIFFÉRENCE avec laquelle les indigènes de Fez, de Maroc, et de quelques villes de la côte avaient accueilli au début les Missions Protestantes se transforme, à l'heure actuelle, en une aversion générale, et tellement profonde dans toutes les classes de la société Marocaine qu'on doit s'attendre à voir se produire à bref délai des manifestations hostiles contre les missionnaires des deux sexes si on n'intervient au plus vite pour faire cesser, ou tout au moins réglementer, cette propagande religieuse.

Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

Mr. White to Messrs. Clark and Nairn.

Gentlemen,

Tangier, June 29, 1891.

OBSERVATIONS have been made to me from various quarters that a hostile feeling against Christians is being aroused amongst the people of Morocco on account of your preaching in that city. In fact, the recent attempt to murder a Frenchman in the streets of Morocco has by some been attributed to the fanatical hatred of Christians that has thereby been aroused amongst the Moors, and I have been assured that the demeanour of the natives towards the Christians has lately undergone a marked change.

You are doubtless aware of the danger that would be incurred by all Christians, as well as by yourselves, should the fanaticism of the Moors be thoroughly aroused.

I think it my duty to point out to you that a very grave responsibility would rest upon you, if, owing to your proceedings, there should be an outburst of fanaticism leading to a loss of life. I therefore trust that you will at all times be most careful not to say or do anything that may in any way be offensive to the Mussulman religion. Under present circumstances, I would strongly urge you to leave Morocco city at once and return to the coast-towns, and even there to exercise every caution in your mission. Quiet and unobtrusive work amongst such as may be willing to receive you would, I venture to observe, be more likely to produce good results than open and public preaching.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 86.

Mr. White to Vice-Consul Frost.

Sir,

Tangier, June 26, 1891.

CID HADJ MOHAMED TORRES has informed me that he has received instructions from the Court to acquaint me that certain English missionaries are exciting a considerable amount of ill-feeling and fanaticism amongst the natives by entering the Mussulman cemeteries to converse on religious subjects with persons sitting at the graves of relatives.

I request you to inform the missionaries of this communication, and to warn them to be very careful how they pursue their calling. A great deal of good can, doubtless, be done in this country in a quiet, unobtrusive way, but it is most desirable that the utmost care should be exercised not to awaken the fanaticism of the Moors, or they may bring disaster, not only on themselves, but also on all other Christians.

You have, doubtless, heard of the late unprovoked attack on a Frenchman at Morocco city by a fanatic. By many this regrettable occurrence is attributed to the over-zeal of certain missionaries who, it is stated, have created a strong feeling against Christians in that city. Whether or not this is so I am not aware, but any person acquainted with the Moors must know the great danger that will be incurred by all Christians should their fanaticism be excited by injudicious attempts at proselytism.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 87.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 52.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 2, 1891.

SINCE writing my despatch No. 50 of the 30th ultimo, on the subject of the growing hostility of the Moors against the English missionaries, I have received a letter from Hadj Mohamed Torres complaining of the proceedings of these missionaries, and requesting that they be expelled from this country, adding significantly that, should they not be removed, and should any harm befall them at the hands of the natives, no responsibility will attach to these latter, who, his Excellency considers, would be justified in thus defending "their honour and their religion."

I beg to transmit herewith translation of Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres' letter, as also the reply, in which I warn his Excellency that, whatever opinion he may hold regarding the responsibility of the natives for any injury they may do to the missionaries, Her Majesty's Government will hold the Sultan's Government responsible, and will exact full reparation for any outrage that may be committed.

I consider it necessary to write thus strongly, for were the Moorish authorities left in the belief that we accept their disclaimer of responsibility, I have no doubt that a hint would soon be dropped which would be sufficient to cause a fanatical attack upon the missionaries.

At the same time, I have warned the missionaries of the danger that threatens them, for, even with the best intentions (with which one cannot credit them), the authorities could not guarantee them from the attack of a fanatic, such as that on the Frenchman at Morocco city.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 87.

Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres to Mr. White.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

24th Kaade, 1308 (July 1, 1891).

I HAVE to inform your Excellency of a complaint which has been communicated to me by the people of Rabat, and which they have laid before the Shereefian Throne, which is that a Society of English Christians, and among them two Christian women, went to Rabat and obtained a house for their residence there, and they pulled it down and began to rebuild it, and opened in it windows to be able to overlook from them

houses of Mussulmans and the Government House, and these two Christian women exercise influence over the Mussulman women, speaking to them against their religion, and endeavouring to overthrow their faith and change their religion, and they read to them a book for that purpose.

A complaint has also been received from the people of Fez about two English women there of this sect. As it is known and admitted in the Treaty that the subjects of (Christian) nations have a right to come to this country and live where they like, but in the place assigned to them by the Governor of the town, and for purposes of commerce, not in order to corrupt the religion and to overthrow the faith of Mussulman women, and to try to change their religion and turn them against their husbands by theories of freedom and the like, the inhabitants of the said town have complained to the Sultan about the evil they suffer, and the ills which are creeping in upon them in their religion and honour, and they have protested against the Government that it should rid them of these evils which have fallen upon their country.

Therefore the Government protests against these Christians through your friendly Government, requesting it to remove this evil (which is) over Morocco, expelling these Christian men and women from this country. In the contrary case, if any harm befall them at the hands of the inhabitants of the aforesaid town, the responsibility will be on their own shoulders, for the inhabitants of the town have a right to defend their honour and their religion by every means in their power, and which may come within their grasp, and they will not have any responsibility in that respect, especially as they have complained to the Government and protested, and now the Government protests against the aforesaid by the channel of your friendly Government.

I request your Excellency to answer this letter.

Friendship! good health! and peace!

(Signed) MOHAMED BEN EL ARBI TORRES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 87.

Mr. White to Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

July 1, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this date in which you put forward complaints against certain British subjects residing at Rabat and at Fez. The complaints are as follows:—

1. That the persons in question residing at Rabat have opened windows in their house overlooking neighbouring houses.
2. That the ladies speak to the Mussulman women on religious subjects and try to turn them against their husbands.

You state that Christians have by Treaty the right to come to this country and live where they like, but only in the place assigned to them by the Governor of the town and for the purposes of commerce alone. Your Excellency therefore protests against these persons, and requests that they be expelled from this country, and you add that in the contrary case should any harm befall them at the hands of the inhabitants of the aforesaid towns, the responsibility would be on their own shoulders, as you consider that the inhabitants of those towns have a right to defend their honour and their religion by every means in their power, and that they will be under no responsibility in that respect.

In reply, I beg to inform your Excellency that I will lose no time in directing the British Vice-Consul at Rabat to inform the British subjects referred to that any question as to their right of opening out windows in their house must be submitted to Shraa, and that they must conform themselves with the decision that may be given. I have already, in accordance with your Excellency's verbal request, instructed the said Vice-Consul to request the ladies to abstain from entering the Moorish cemetery and from conversing on religious subjects with those who do not wish to receive them.

With regard to the complaint that the ladies at Fez and at Rabat endeavour to turn the Mussulman women against their husbands, and also in respect to their religious work, I am convinced that your Excellency has been misinformed, probably by persons who do not know and do not care to know what the real nature of these ladies' work is. I have reason to know that the ladies at Fez have, by their charity and kindness

to sick and poor, been gaining the respect and esteem of the most enlightened of the Moors.

I am unable to agree with your Excellency's interpretation of the rights accorded to British subjects by Treaty in so far as they refer to their place of dwelling. I am aware of no grounds for your Excellency's assumption that British subjects can only reside in the place assigned to them by the Governor of the town, and can only reside in this country for the purpose of trade.

In conclusion, I beg to assure your Excellency in the most emphatic manner that whatever view the Moorish authorities may take as to the responsibility that may rest on the people of Fez and Rabat for any harm that may befall these British subjects, Her Majesty's Government will hold the Government of the Sultan responsible, and will exact full reparation for any outrage that may be perpetrated on British subjects. All the more so as the knowledge that their authorities entertain such views as those expressed in your Excellency's letter is sufficient to encourage the natives to commit outrages for which they are virtually promised immunity.

Peace!

No. 88.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 35.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 9, 1891.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 50 of the 30th ultimo, relative to the proceedings of certain Scotch missionaries at Morocco city, and of lady missionaries at Rabat.

I approve the steps you have taken with a view to warn these persons of the serious consequences which may result from their acts.

You should report whether the missionaries in question are connected with any Society in Great Britain to which a warning to the same effect could be given.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 89.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 36.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1891.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 52 of the 2nd July, and I approve the note which you addressed to Hadj Mohammed Torres in reply to the complaint of the Moorish Government against the proceedings of British missionaries in Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 90.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. Dering.

(No. 133.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 15, 1891.

THE Italian Ambassador informed me this afternoon that his Government had received an intimation from the Government of Spain to the following effect.

It was stated that the French Government had intimated to His Shereefian Majesty that they resigned all claims upon the Oasis of Figuig, but that, on the other hand, they looked upon their claims on the Oasis of Tuat to be so self-evident that they could not consent to negotiate on it further, or to admit that it was susceptible of any controversy.

I replied to his Excellency that no such news had reached me, and that, until I saw the details of it, it was impossible for me to express any opinion on it. But, in reply to a suggestion of his that the Oasis of Tuat was conceded to the French by the

Anglo-French Agreement of last August, I replied that there was nothing in the terms of that instrument that would give the slightest foundation for such a claim.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 91.

Consul Finn to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 38.)

My Lord,

Malaga, July 15, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of an extract from the "Union Mercantil" (a local newspaper), pointing out that the Spanish Government has the intention of fortifying this place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALEXANDER FINN.

Inclosure in No. 91.

Extract from the "Union Mercantil" of July 15, 1891.

(Translation.)

THE decision to establish a strong park of artillery in Malaga would seem to be the first step towards other measures which we announced some time ago, showing the importance of Malaga according to military ideas, and the contingencies which perhaps may arise at no remote period in Morocco. This is certain, that Germany for some time past has fixed her eyes on some portion of the Moroccan Empire.

No. 92.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 54. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 16, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 41 of the 20th May, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a French translation of the Contract signed by the Vizier Garneet and by the French Minister, on behalf of M. Gaiffe, for the supply of 20,000,000 fr. worth of Moorish small silver coin. I have every reason to believe that this translation, which was communicated to me confidentially, was made from the Arabic document in the possession of the Vizier, and is correct.

I further inclose a Memorandum embodying the provisions of the Contract in a concise form.

As already reported to your Lordship, the French claimed that the Sultan had granted to them some years since the monopoly of coining money for His Majesty. The Sultan opposed this claim at first, but finally this Contract was entered upon as a compromise. The Vizier stated to Mr. De Vismes de Ponthieu that, by the terms of this Contract, the French relinquished all claims to a further monopoly; the wording, however, in the French translation appears to be somewhat ambiguous as to this point, but it is possible the Arabic text may be more clear.

The Sultan was probably dazzled by the gain of 3 per cent., and did not stop to consider what the profits of M. Gaiffe would amount to. With silver at its present price, I calculate that M. Gaiffe will clear a net profit of about 3,500,000 fr.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 92.

Contract between M. Gaiffe and the Moorish Government.

(Traduction.)

EN conformité de l'ordre Chérifien, il a été convenu par ce Contrat, entre le Vézir de Sa Majesté Chérifienne le Fekih Sid Mohammed-el-Mofdel Gharnit, et entre

le Français, le Chevalier Gaiffe, par l'intervention du Chevalier Patenôtre, Ministre de France, sur les conditions suivantes :—

Article 1^{er}. Sa Majesté Chérifienne a cru à propos de frapper de la monnaie légitime (d'après la Loi Divine) qui circulera dans son heureux État; sur cela le susdit Vézir a, par l'entremise du dit Ministre de France, chargé le Sieur Gaiffe à faire frapper cette monnaie.

Art. 2. On frappera de la monnaie légitime d'une valeur de 20,000,000 fr., qui aura un poids de 100,000 kilog., de laquelle 20,000 kilog. seront frappés en un demi-douro qui pèse 5 drames chaque, ce demi-douro doit être en poids et en grandeur comme celui de la monnaie qui a été antérieurement frappée, le titre de son métal sera comme celui du franc Français, 20,000 kilog. aussi seront frappés en un quart de douro, d'un poids de 2½ drames chaque (même condition), 30,000 kilog. seront frappés en monnaie d'un dixième de douro, d'un poids d'un drame chaque (même condition) 30,000 kilog. seront frappés en pièces d'une moitié de dixième de douro, le poids de chaque pièce est d'un demi-drame (même condition).

Le susdit demi-douro aura un bord lisse avec des étoiles. Les trois autres espèces lesquelles sont : le quart du douro, le dixième du douro, et la moitié du dixième du douro auront le bord scarifié, l'inscription sera sur les deux faces de quatre espèces exactement comme le modèle que le Vézir a remis au susdit Gaiffe.

Art. 3. Le Vézir Gharnit demandera, comme il est d'usage parmi les Puissances, par écrit au Gouvernement Français, l'autorisation de frapper la monnaie spécifiée dans ce Contrat, à l'Hôtel de la Monnaie à Paris, où la monnaie antérieure a été frappée. Les quatre espèces devront être d'après le modèle, quant à leur poids, leur empreintes et leurs inscriptions, à l'exception de la date, laquelle sera l'année où l'on frappera.

Art. 4. Les frais pour frapper toute la monnaie, les frais de transport et autres qui peuvent avoir lieu de Paris jusqu'à l'arrivée de la susdite monnaie au port de Tanger, seront à la charge du Sieur Gaiffe, et ce dernier n'aura aucun droit de rien réclamer de ce qui précède au Gouvernement Marocain.

Art. 5. Le Sieur Gaiffe s'oblige après l'expiration de quatre mois à partir de la date de ce Contrat, de livrer à Tanger le poids de 833 kilog. et ⅓ de kilog. de la nouvelle monnaie frappée en argent d'après les conditions mentionnées. Il livrera aussi chaque mois 833 kilog. et ⅓ de kilog. de la susdite monnaie, jusqu'à ce qu'il termine les 100,000 kilog., en conformité de ce Contrat. En cas que le Gouvernement Français frappe pour son compte de la monnaie, alors le Sieur Gaiffe aura le temps d'attendre jusqu'à ce que le Gouvernement Français aurait achevé de frapper sa monnaie.

Art. 6. A chaque livraison mensuelle de la nouvelle monnaie mentionnée dans ce Contrat, le Représentant de Sa Majesté Chérifienne à Tanger la recevra, la comptera et contrôlera le poids, l'écriture et autre; il payera en échange de la somme qu'il a reçue à la personne que M. Gaiffe indiquera, de la monnaie Européenne qui sera disponible et de celle qui circule en Europe, soit en argent ou soit en or, à l'exception de celle (monnaie) en argent de quatre pays, lesquels sont : la Serbie, la Bulgarie, la Roumanie, et la Turquie.

Le Sieur Gaiffe recevra 97 douros Européens pour chaque 100 douros qu'il remettra de la nouvelle monnaie de quatre espèces spécifiées. Il livrera mensuellement de ces quatre espèces ci-dessus mentionnées la quantité des kilogrammes désignés, jusqu'à ce qu'il termine toute le somme.

Le délai accordé au Sieur Gaiffe est de dix ans et quatre mois pour compléter toute la livraison.

Le Sieur Gaiffe a demandé qu'en cas que le prix d'argent serait en hausse, il s'arrêtera dans le courant de l'année de frapper la nouvelle monnaie en question, et si la hausse continuera, alors le Sieur Gaiffe a la faculté pour chaque année où il y aura la hausse du prix de l'argent, de ne pas frapper la dite monnaie, jusqu'à un terme de dix autres années, ça fait qu'il a le terme pour toute la livraison et le terme accordé en cas de hausse du prix de l'argent, un délai de vingt ans et quatre mois, si ce terme est expiré et que les 100,000 kilog. n'auront pas été antérieurement livrés, ce Contrat sera annulé et ses conditions ne seront plus valables pour la quantité qui restera, et le Sieur Gaiffe n'aura aucun droit ni aucune objection à formuler, ainsi que le Gouvernement Marocain aura toute la faculté de frapper une monnaie soit en argent, en cuivre, ou en autre métal à quel temps ou à quel lieu qu'il désire.

Après que le Sieur Gaiffe aura achevé et accompli les conditions de ce Contrat et livré toute la somme mentionnée, il est tenu de rendre tous les coins de la monnaie qui a été frappée chez eux (à Paris).

Art. 7. Les conditions de ce Contrat sont acceptées et approuvées par les deux
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Parties Contractantes et seront en vigueur à partir du jour de Dimanche 1^{er} Choual, 1308 (au 10 Mai, 1891).

Inclosure 2 in No. 92.

Substance of Contract between Vizier Gharnit and M. Gaiffe through the French Minister, May 10, 1891.

M. GAIFFE will coin 20,000,000 fr. worth of Moorish silver money of a total weight of 100,000 kilog., as follows:—

20,000 kilog.	of coins of the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ dollar and of the weight of 5 "dramas."*	
20,000 "	" "	$2\frac{1}{2}$ "
30,000 "	" "	1 "
30,000 "	" "	$\frac{1}{2}$ "

These coins are to be of exactly the size, weight, and pattern (except date) of those minted in Paris for the Sultan nine years ago, and are to be of the same standard as the French franc piece.

The Vizier will ask the permission of the French Government for their being struck at the Paris Mint.

The Moorish Government will pay for each 100 dollars' worth of the new coins delivered free in Tangier Bay, 97 dollars (5 fr. pieces) of any European country except Servia, Bulgaria, Roumania, and Turkey. M. Gaiffe will deliver 833 $\frac{1}{3}$ kilog. of the new coin four months after signature of the Contract, i.e., on the 10th September, 1891, and further instalments of 833 $\frac{1}{3}$ kilog. at the end of each subsequent month, so that the total amount shall have been delivered in ten years and four months, a delay being, however, accorded to M. Gaiffe for any time that the French Government require the use of the Mint.

Should there be a rise in the price of silver, M. Gaiffe may suspend coining until a fall occurs, but should M. Gaiffe not have delivered the full amount at the end of twenty years and four months, the Contract will become void in so far as concerns the balance, and the Sultan will be free to coin money whenever and wherever he pleases.

On the accomplishment of the Contract, M. Gaiffe will surrender all the dies to the Sultan.

No. 93.

Question asked in the House of Commons, July 23, 1891.

Mr. Rentoul.—To ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether he is aware that the Presbyterian and other missionaries in Morocco believe that they are at present in a position of great danger owing to the threats of the natives; and whether he can take any steps to secure the safety of the missionaries, or give any assurance which may allay the fears which the friends of the missionaries in this country entertain:

Whether he knows of any conduct on the part of the missionaries in any sense calculated to provoke hostility:

And, if he can point out any methods by which mission work could be carried on with greater safety in Morocco than at present.

Answer.

It is unfortunately the case that the injudicious proceedings of certain missionaries have aroused the fanatical feelings of the native population in Morocco city and elsewhere, and given rise to complaints from the Moorish Government.

Her Majesty's Acting Chargé d'Affaires has taken steps to warn them of the danger to which they are exposing both themselves and others.

* The current Moorish $\frac{1}{10}$ dollar piece, which is marked as 1 "dirhem" (the Arabic word translated "drame") weighs 44·6 grains. All the pieces are of proportional weight, consequently 100,000 kilog. of metal would only yield considerably less than 20,000,000 francs at 2 dirhems per franc; that sum would weigh upwards of 115,000 kilog. more. There would, therefore, appear to be a contradiction in the terms of the Contract.—H. E. W.

It would be well if the Societies with which these gentlemen and ladies are connected would support the action of Her Majesty's Representative, as he reports "that it is much to be regretted that the want of tact of a few of the Protestant missionaries in this country should in a great measure counteract and undo the really good work that is being done in a quiet and unostentatious manner by others, who by their tender ministrations to the poor and sick have been steadily gaining the respect and esteem of all."

No. 94.

Mr. Barrington to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 67.)

My Lord,

Madrid, July 22, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival here early yesterday morning of a Special Embassy from the Sultan of Morocco to the Queen-Regent of Spain. It is composed of an Ambassador, accompanied by an Assistant Minister, who is said to speak Spanish, French, and English, and who was once before employed on a Special Mission to this country in 1880; a Secretary; a Moorish Engineer Officer of the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, who was educated at the Spanish Academy of Guadalajara; some other interpreters and subordinates, and a considerable suite of servants.

The Ambassador has arrived out of health, but his assistant and the chief members of his Staff exchanged visits yesterday with the Minister of State and the Prime Minister, and it is proposed that the Embassy, even if the state of his health should prevent the Ambassador proceeding to present himself in person to the Queen-Regent, shall continue its journey to San Sebastian to-morrow, or on the following day, his Excellency the Duke of Tetuan going there also in his capacity of Spanish Minister of State.

As far as I have been able to ascertain, the present Embassy is nothing more than one of the usual complimentary Missions dispatched from time to time by the Sultan of Morocco to Spain, the last of which came to this country on its way back from France, in the autumn of 1889. On this occasion the Embassy has perhaps been sent as a friendly sequel to the settlement of various outstanding differences between the two countries.

It is charged with the delivery of the customary presents of horses, carpets, embroideries, and other specimens of Moorish produce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM A. C. BARRINGTON.

No. 95.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 27.)

(No. 56.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 17, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a cutting from the local French paper "Le Réveil du Maroc,"* referring to articles that have lately appeared in the Spanish press, alleging that a letter had been addressed to the Marquis of Rudini by Lord Dufferin, offering to guarantee Tripoli against French or Spanish aggression, in exchange for the possession of Tangier and Ceuta, should Morocco be attacked by a Maritime Power.

The "Réveil," whilst admitting the possibility of the alleged letter being a myth, observes that there is probability on its side, for the possession of the triangle Gibraltar, Ceuta, Tangier, would be of the greatest importance to England, whilst the blow to Spanish susceptibilities would be so great if England took possession of Tangier, that the fact of her taking Ceuta as well could scarcely make her action more offensive in the eyes of Spain.

The article proceeds to refer to a letter from Melilla lately published in the Spanish journal "El Heraldo," in which it is stated that local reports in the Riff confirm the rumours of the cession of Kebdana to Germany, though the "Réveil" does not consider it likely the Sultan would consent to such a cession.

* Not printed.

The object of this article in the "Réveil" is doubtless to excite amongst the Moors a feeling of suspicion towards England, Italy, and Germany. Translations of such articles are sent to the Moorish Court, and it is hoped that, through distrust and fear of those the Sultan had hitherto looked upon as protectors, His Majesty would become more inclined to throw himself into the arms of France.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 96.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 58.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 23, 1891.

WITH reference to the despatches mentioned in the margin* on the subject of the action of M. Gentile, Interpreter of the Italian Legation, in taking possession of a certain inclosure adjoining stores in the occupation of the British firm of Messrs. Murdoch, Butler, and Hunter, of which inclosure that firm also claimed to be in possession, I have the honour to report that I have succeeded in bringing the matter to a settlement, which I trust will meet with your Lordship's approval.

It will be within your Lordship's recollection that, on the matter being referred to the Italian Government by Her Majesty's Ambassador at Rome, Signor Damiani replied, recapitulating what had passed from the Italian standpoint, and approving the "straightforward behaviour of Signor Gianatelli-Gentile."

In view of the decided difference of opinion that existed regarding this matter, your Lordship proposed that the question should be submitted to the mediation of the German or Austro-Hungarian Representative at Tangier, but the Italian Government preferring that a settlement should be arrived at by an amicable agreement between the two Legations without the intervention of a third party, your Lordship concurred in this suggestion on the understanding that, in the event of the two Legations failing to arrive at a settlement, Her Majesty's Government should be free to revive the proposal for mediation.

Messrs. Gentile and Hunter being at the time absent from Tangier, the late Sir William Kirby Green and Signor Cantagalli decided to postpone a further discussion of the matter until their return; but notwithstanding the protest of Sir William Kirby Green, the work of building the new office of the Italian Consular Agency on the site taken possession of by M. Gentile was actively proceeded with.

The matter remained in this position till the 15th instant, when M. Cantagalli addressed me a note, inclosing a Memorandum on the question, and inquiring when the lease of Messrs. Murdoch, Butler, and Hunter would expire. I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of this note and Memorandum, as also of my reply, in which I pointed out that the Italian title to this property, which was assumed in the Memorandum, had never been admitted by this Legation.

From further particulars that I had ascertained from Mr. Hunter, who is now residing at Tangier, it appeared to me that, should the matter be referred to arbitration, our case would not be so strong as was at first imagined, and considering that it was in every way desirable that the incident should, if possible, be brought to a close, I proposed to Signor Cantagalli a settlement in the terms of the Memorandum inclosed herewith, these terms, in my opinion, constituting a fair and honourable compromise which both parties could readily accept.

Signor Cantagalli, after some little discussion as to minor points, agreed to the terms proposed by me, and signed them with me after that they had been translated into Italian.

I beg further to inclose translation of the letter addressed to me by Signor Cantagalli, as agreed upon, and also copy of my reply, which may be said to close the incident.

Mr. Hunter has expressed himself as fully satisfied with the solution that has been given to this question, as ample time has thus been afforded him to procure other stores.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

* Sir W. K. Green, No. 142, December 9, 1889; Foreign Office, No. 19, February 22; Sir W. K. Green, No. 19, February 24; Foreign Office, No. 38, May 16, 1890.

Inclosure 1 in No. 96.

Signor Cantagalli to Mr. White.

Tanger, le 15 Juillet, 1891.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

EN me référant à la conversation que j'eus l'honneur d'avoir avec vous il y a quelques jours, je me permets de vous adresser le *pro-memorid* ci-inclus ayant trait à l'affaire des magasins de Casablanca occupés par Mr. Hunter.

Veillez, &c.
(Signé) R. CANTAGALLI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

Pro-memorid.

IL y a deux ans environ, Sa Majesté Chériffienne fit don au Gouvernement Italien d'un local situé dans la ville de Casablanca, pour servir d'habitation et de bureau à l'Agent Consulaire d'Italie en cette ville.

Ce local se composait alors de deux magasins et d'un terrain attenant à ceux-ci, sur lequel on était en train d'élever des constructions.

Le Sultan ordonna au Caïd Ben Saïd de Salé, qui en avait la jouissance, de remettre le local au Représentant d'Italie; ordre fut aussi donné aux Administrateurs d'achever les constructions et de bâtir au-dessus des deux magasins un étage pour l'habitation de l'Agent Consulaire.

A l'époque où M. Gentile, Interprète de la Légation, réclama, au nom du Gouvernement Italien, la remise du local, c'est-à-dire dans le mois d'Octobre 1889, il lui fut répondu que les deux magasins se trouvaient en possession de Mr. Hunter, Vice-Consul Britannique à Casablanca. M. Gentile ayant procédé à des investigations à cet égard, il apprit que les deux magasins avaient été loués en origine par le dit Caïd au nommé Hadj Jaïb Elmigi, lequel les avait sous-loués à Mr. Hunter pour le terme de deux ans.

L'Interprète de la Légation se borna donc à prendre possession du terrain indépendant des magasins et des matériaux de construction y assemblés, se réservant de réclamer à nouveau la remise des magasins à l'expiration du bail.

Cette manière de procéder de M. Gentile fut approuvée par le Gouvernement Italien.

A la suite des réclamations de Mr. Hunter, lequel prétendait être aussi en possession du terrain attenant aux magasins, il fut convenu entre les Ministres de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Italie que l'on respecterait le contrat de location existant pour les deux magasins jusqu'à sa pleine échéance. Quant au terrain, la possession qu'en avait prise l'Interprète de la Légation fut reconnue de bon droit.

Subséquentement, les constructions commencées dans le terrain contigu aux magasins, furent achevées en vertu des ordres Chériffiens. Elles servent aujourd'hui de bureau à l'Agence Consulaire d'Italie.

La Légation Royale aurait voulu procéder en même temps à édifier un étage au-dessus des magasins pour l'habitation de son Agent Consulaire. Mr. Hunter y fit opposition; il [sic] du peu de solidité des murs et de la toiture, et déclara que cela constituerait un danger pour les magasins qu'il occupait.

La Légation Royale sursit donc à cette construction dans l'attente de l'expiration du bail.

Bien que le Représentant d'Italie n'ait pu jusqu'à ce jour, malgré ses instances, obtenir vision du contrat de sous-location passé entre Mr. Hunter et le nommé Hadj Jaïb Elmigi, il a raison de croire que le terme du bail doit être sur le point d'expirer.

Par conséquent, comme le local tout entier doit passer entre les mains du Gouvernement Italien, qui en est le propriétaire par concession de Sa Majesté Chériffienne, pour en disposer à son gré, le Représentant d'Italie prie M. le Chargé d'Affaires de la Grande-Bretagne de vouloir bien inviter Mr. Hunter à déclarer la date exacte à laquelle doit expirer le Contrat dont il jouit.

Tangier, le 15 Juillet, 1891.

Inclosure 3 in No. 96.

Mr. White to Signor Cantagalli.

M. le Ministre,

Tangier, July 17, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 15th instant, inclosing a Memorandum on the subject of the question that arose out of the action of M. Gentile in regard to certain property in the occupation of Messrs. Murdoch, Butler, and Hunter, at Dar-al-Baida.

In this Memorandum, I observe that you state that M. Gentile's right to take possession of the land adjoining the stores has been recognized, but on a reference to the correspondence in the archives of this Legation, I have failed to find any document to that effect; in fact, in his letters of the 17th and 18th June, which apparently closed the correspondence, Sir William Kirby Green stated that he did not admit such right; and in the latter letter he explained why, in his opinion, the question of Mr. Hunter's title at the time of the occurrence to the piece of ground on which the flagstaff was erected was most essential, and proposed that the inquiry be directed to that particular point.

Mr. Hunter is at present residing at Tangier, and therefore the inquiry can be held on M. Gentile's return, which I understand will not now be long delayed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 96.

Terms of Settlement between Signor Cantagalli and Mr. White.

(Translation.)

MESSRS. MURDOCH, BUTLER, AND HUNTER to remain in undisturbed possession of the two stores until the end of the year 1892, in consideration of the money they have already paid on account of rent, &c.

2. Messrs. Murdoch, Butler, and Hunter to vacate both stores on the expiration of that term, renouncing all further claim in respect thereto.

3. Should the Italian flagstaff still be in the position in which it was placed by M. Gentile in contact with the wall of the said stores, it will be at once removed to another part of the new Consular Agency.

4. A letter will be addressed to the British Representative by the Italian Minister, stating that, at the time of the entry into the premises at the back of the stores and the erection of the Italian flagstaff, M. Gentile was in complete ignorance of the fact that the key of those premises was in Mr. Hunter's possession, or that any claim was laid to them by Messrs. Murdoch, Butler, and Hunter; and expressing regret that thus, through ignorance of the circumstances, M. Gentile had unwittingly given any cause of offence to the British Legation or Vice-Consulate.

Done at Tangier, in duplicate, on this the 22nd day of July, 1891.

Inclosure 5 in No. 96.

Signor Cantagalli to Mr. White.

(Translation.)

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

Tangier, July 23, 1891.

CONFORMABLY with the agreement reciprocally entered into, the conditions of which were fixed by the compromise, which we had signed on the 22nd instant, I have the honour to declare as follows:—

That at the time when the Interpreter of the Royal Italian Legation proceeded to Dar-al-Baida to take possession of the premises conceded by His Shereefian Majesty to the Italian Government, and at the moment when Signor Gentile penetrated into the inclosed ground adjacent to the two stores, which form part of the premises themselves and are in the occupation of Mr. Hunter, which ground is independent of those stores, and there hoisted the Italian flag, Signor Gentile was entirely unaware that the key of the door through which he had gained access to the said ground was in the possession of Mr. Hunter; in the same way, he was not aware that Messrs. Murdoch, Butler, and Hunter had put forward any claim in respect of that piece of ground.

That, consequently, Signor Gentile could not commit intentionally an unfriendly act, and still less infringe rights which were entirely unknown to him.

In expressing consequently my regret that the incident, which thus becomes closed, should have produced, without there having been any fault or intentional provocation, an impression which I esteem myself fortunate in dissipating, I take the opportunity, M. le Chargé d'Affaires, of offering you, &c.

(Signed)

R. CANTAGALLI,
Italian Minister.

Inclosure 6 in No. 96.

Mr. White to Signor Cantagalli.

Tangier, July 23, 1891.

M. le Ministre,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this date, written in accordance with the terms agreed upon by us yesterday for the settlement of the question that arose out of the action of M. Gentile in regard to the site granted by the Sultan to your Government for the new Italian Consular Agency at Dar-al-Baida.

In thanking your Excellency for this communication, I beg to express the great satisfaction it has afforded me to have been able to bring to a close this unfortunate incident.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 97.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 59.)

My Lord,

Tangier, July 23, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatches No. 50 of the 30th ultimo and No. 52 of the 2nd instant, and to your Lordship's despatch No. 35 of the 9th instant, I have the honour to inclose herewith a note of the names of the Societies to which belong the missionaries against whom complaints have been made.

The North African Mission has done good work in this country amongst the sick poor. Most of the missionaries, a great portion of whom are ladies, having received medical training, they have established hospitals at Tangier, Fez, and Dar-al-Baida.

The South Morocco Mission, as their name implies, work in the southern portion of this country; the missionaries in Morocco city belong to this Society.

The English Presbyterian Mission are established at Rabat, and are also a Medical Mission.

The British and Foreign Bible Society also have an agent at Tangier.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received a despatch from the Vice-Consul at Rabat, in reply to the despatches I had addressed him communicating the complaints of Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres. Your Lordship will observe from the copy of this despatch, inclosed herewith, that there appears to be no foundation for the charges advanced against the missionaries at Rabat.

I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of a letter I am addressing to Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres, communicating the substance of Mr. Frost's despatch.

H. E. W.

Inclosure 1 in No. 97.

List of Societies sending Missionaries to Morocco.

THE North African Mission: Honorary Secretary, E. H. Glenney, Esq.,
21, Linton Road, Barking, Essex.
The South Morocco Mission: Honorary Secretary, J. Anderson, Esq.,
Ardrossan, N. B.
The English Presbyterian Mission: Honorary Secretary, Dr. Edmunds.

Note.—I am unable at present to ascertain the address of the English Presbyterian Mission, but it would doubtless appear in the "London Directory."
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 97.

Mr. Frost to Mr. White.

Rabat, July 16, 1891.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated respectively the 26th June and 2nd instant, informing me that Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres has received instructions from the Court to acquaint you—

1. That certain English missionaries are exciting a considerable amount of ill-feeling and fanaticism amongst the natives by entering the Mussulman cemeteries to converse on religious subjects with persons sitting at the graves of relations.
2. That the missionaries have pulled down the house assigned to them, and are rebuilding it with windows opening out on to neighbouring houses.
3. That they are exercising influence over Moorish women, speaking to them against their religion, and endeavouring to turn them against their husbands.

You state that Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres protests against these proceedings, and requests that the missionaries be removed from the country, and you direct me to warn them to be careful how they pursue their calling, for that, even with the best intentions, the Moorish Government could not prevent a sudden attack on them, should an outburst of fanaticism unfortunately occur.

In reply to these communications, I have the honour to state that no complaint of the proceedings alluded to has been received by me against the missionaries here from the authorities of this town, nor have I heard complaints from any other source. I called upon Governor Sweesy yesterday, and asked him if he had received any complaints against the missionaries, but he replied in the negative, adding that had such been the case, he would, of course, have apprized me. I can only conclude, therefore, that some enemy of the Mission work here has written an exaggerated statement to the Sultan, which has called forth the letters from the Court to Hadj Mohamed Torres.

The Mission, which was established here five years ago by the English Presbyterian Church, is a Medical Mission, headed by Dr. Kerr, and composed of himself, his wife, and two other ladies. It is the sole Mission in this country supported by the Presbyterian body, and must not be confounded with other Missions in Morocco, some of which I have reason to believe are not conducted with the prudence with which all missionary operations should be carried on in this country.

From what I have observed of Dr. Kerr's work, I have nothing but good to report of it. He carries on his medical work in an unobtrusive manner, and has earned the gratitude of numbers of the natives. On my acquainting him with the charges set forth by the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, he replied as follows:—

Charge 1. No cemeteries have been entered, since they are not inclosed, but situated in open public promenades. Mrs. Kerr has occasionally spoken to native women when out for her evening walk, but never in such a manner as to offend their religious prejudices. The other ladies cannot yet speak Arabic.

Charge 2. The house referred to is one assigned to the two ladies as a dwelling-house. It has not been pulled down, but put into habitable order, and the windows, which have been opened, do not look into the neighbouring houses. I have exercised special care in this particular, and, in order to obviate any cause of complaint, I have had a wall built on the terrace or roof at considerable expense, which effectually protects the neighbouring houses from being overlooked by any one ascending there.

The owner of the house and the Governor of the town have had full cognizance of these operations now just completed, and which have met with their sanction.

Charge No. 3. This charge is entirely devoid of foundation. Mrs. Kerr, in her occasional visits to Moorish families with which she is acquainted, has never used language of this kind, and is incapable of doing so.

While accepting Dr. Kerr's disclaimers, I have at the same time not failed to inculcate upon him, as instructed by you, how important it is that he and those associated with him should exercise the greatest prudence in the conduct of their operations, more especially those of a directly religious nature, so as to avoid all danger of arousing native fanaticism, which would not only thwart the object they have in view, but might possibly have disastrous consequences both to themselves and to the whole Christian community resident here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN FROST.

Inclosure 3 in No. 97.

Mr. White to Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

Tangier, July 24, 1891.

WITH reference to your Excellency's letter of the 4th Kadah (1st July) and to my reply of the same day, I have the honour to inform you that I have received a despatch from the British Vice-Consul at Rabat in answer to that I had addressed him, communicating the complaints made by your Excellency against certain English missionaries.

The Vice-Consul expresses surprise that these complaints, in so far as they refer to Rabat, should have been made to me without their having been first brought to his notice either by a Moorish official, or by any other person whatever. Upon receipt of my despatch, he called upon the Governor of the town, and inquired whether he received any such complaint. Kaid Sweesy replied in the negative.

From the Vice-Consul's despatch, it appears that the missionaries have not pulled down their house, but merely repaired it, and that the windows that have been opened out do not look into neighbouring houses. They have taken especial care as to this point, and have even gone so far as to build up a wall on the terrace of their house, so as not to be able to overlook neighbouring houses, all having been done with the full knowledge and sanction of the owner of the house and of the Governor of the town.

The charge made against the ladies with regard to the nature of their communications with Moorish ladies is also denied; only one of the ladies can speak Arabic, and she has always exercised the greatest care in her conversation with her Moorish friends.

I have lately had an opportunity of speaking on the subject of these complaints with one of the ladies of Fez, who happens to be here at present. She has assured me that the charges, in so far as they refer to herself and her companions, are unfounded; and I may add that I have from many independent sources heard the greatest praise bestowed upon these ladies for the tact they have shown in the conduct of their charitable work.

It is quite evident to me that your Excellency has been misled by ignorant and evil-disposed persons, who, knowing that their complaints, if made on the spot, could easily be refuted, have thought that they might do harm to those whose sole object in coming to this country is to do good, by making false reports to your Excellency.

Peace.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 98.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 37.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1891.

I APPROVE your proceedings in regard to the settlement of the difficulty with the Italian Legation respecting certain premises at Dar-al-Baida, as reported in your despatch No. 58 of the 23rd ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 99.

Southern Morocco Mission to Foreign Office.—(Received August 4.)

Sir,

Ardrossan, North Britain, August 3, 1891.

MY attention has been directed to your statement regarding "the injudicious proceedings of certain missionaries" in Morocco, made in answer to Mr. Pickersgill, as reported in the "Times" of the 23rd July. The fact that Mr. White, Her Majesty's Consul at Tangier, has made similar statements orally and in writing to the representatives of another Mission, and has, as I learn from private sources, indicated that it is the agents of the Southern Morocco Mission against whom his animadversions are directed, together with the fact that you specially name "Morocco city," and that our agents alone occupy that station, give me, I humbly think, some ground, as the Director of that Mission, for asking an explanation regarding these charges.

I may say that we entirely deny the allegation of "injudicious proceedings," and although feeling aggrieved by Mr. White's remarks I had no intention of taking notice of them, seeing they were made privately; but it is a very different matter when damaging statements calculated to bring the Mission into discredit are made publicly in the House of Commons by an important Government official. I venture to say that no such allegations should have been made without giving the parties implicated an opportunity of submitting their version of the matter.

I am quite sure that you spoke what you believed to be the truth from the documents in your possession, and I cannot expect you to occupy your time in investigating what to you is a very trivial matter; but I feel that if these statements pass unchallenged, that similar charges may be repeated in future on as slender grounds; and, most of all, that British Government officials in Morocco, accepting as true statements which they have apparently received from some unfriendly source, may take up a position inimical to the work and interests of this Mission.

I would like, therefore, if some opportunity were given us of rebutting these charges, or at least of submitting a statement in defence. I can speak on this matter from personal experience. In the month of March last year I was asked by a French subject in Mogador to conduct a religious service in his own house. I assented, and had to appear before Mr. Payton, Her Majesty's Consul, on the Tuesday following, to answer a charge by the Kaïd of attempting to overthrow the religion of the people. Recently, I may add, Mr. Payton, quite unsolicited, wrote our representatives, bearing testimony to the wise and judicious manner in which they had conducted their operations. In my opinion, the best way of putting matters in order would be to grant me an interview with Colonel Euan-Smith before he leaves for Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON.

No. 100.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 38.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1891.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 59 of the 23rd ultimo in regard to the proceedings of certain missionaries in Morocco, and I approve the note which you addressed to the Moorish Government relative to the unfounded charges advanced against those residing at Rabat.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 101.

Foreign Office to Southern Morocco Mission.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1891.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you, for your confidential information, the accompanying extract of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier,* calling attention to the excitement caused at Morocco city by the proceedings of Messrs. Nairn and Clarke, who are understood to be working there on behalf of the South Morocco Mission.

Mr. White has pointed out to these gentlemen the grave responsibility they will incur if their conduct should lead to an outbreak of fanaticism, but Lord Salisbury trusts that your Society will support Mr. White's representations by sending to them instructions in a similar sense.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 102.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 39.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 5, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 13 of the 10th April last in regard to the looting of the "San Francisco," I have to request you to inform me whether any steps have yet been taken to obtain a settlement of the British claim for 300*l.* against the Moorish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 103.

Southern Morocco Mission to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 6.)

My Lord,

Ardrossan, North Britain, August 5, 1891.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's communication of yesterday's date, per Mr. Currie, inclosing extract of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier relative to certain alleged injudicious proceedings on the part of the agents of the above Mission at Marrakesh (Morocco city).

In reply, I have first of all to assure your Lordship that the representatives of this Mission are fully alive to the peculiar delicacy and difficulty of conducting missionary operations in a country like Morocco, and it has been their constant aim not only to avoid giving any just-cause of offence to the authorities, but also by kindly and courteous intercourse to gain the esteem and good-will of the people.

In proof of this, I may cite the unsolicited testimony of Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador, Mr. Payton, who recently in a letter to Mr. Nairn gave expression to his satisfaction with the wise and judicious manner in which the affairs of the Mission had been conducted.

His Excellency the late Sir William Kirby Green also had so much confidence in our missionaries, that it was entirely by his kind offices that they secured Mission premises and obtained a footing in Marrakesh.

I can assure your Lordship that we shall be careful not to forfeit this confidence, and our missionaries have been communicated with in terms of your Lordship's request.

With regard to the particular charges now made against our missionaries, I cannot refrain giving expression to the opinion, that they are due to some exaggeration or misconception of the circumstances referred to. I have been in close communication with our missionaries, and have been familiar with the details of their procedure, and I am satisfied that nothing has been done by them to warrant the terms used in Mr. White's despatch. The only thing approaching "open preaching" that has taken place has been conversations with individuals when others have joined in and formed

little groups, but these companies were dealt with discreetly, and anything calculated to awaken fanaticism was carefully avoided.

Mr. Nairn was invited to an interview with the Moorish Foreign Minister and the principal Cadi at Marrakesh, when certain false charges were made against him and his fellow missionaries, such as giving the people money to change their religion, &c. These charges he strenuously denied, and afterwards repeated his denial in writing, that it might be submitted to the Sultan. Perceiving, however, that through these groundless charges some feeling had been stirred, our missionaries for a time prudently refrained from all active duty except the administering of medical relief to any sick patients who called at the Mission-house.

When the Sultan and Court left Marrakesh any feeling that existed gradually subsided, and by the date on which Mr. White's communication was received by Mr. Nairn our missionaries had resumed their duties, and their whole time and strength were taxed to the utmost in attending to the patients who came to the Mission Station, and the sick whom they were invited to treat in their own homes. So far from exciting hostile feeling, they were enjoying the confidence and esteem of the people.

Your Lordship will at once see that it would have been a serious mistake for them to have retired to the coast at this juncture, and, moreover, Mr. White's instructions were adapted to a very different set of circumstances than those which prevailed when his letter came to hand.

I need not remind your Lordship of how readily a Government like that of Morocco can, on the most slender grounds, build a most formidable charge. For the harmless proceeding of accepting the invitation of a French subject in Mogador to conduct a religious service in his house in March of last year, I was made the subject of a grave indictment by the Kaïd, and had to answer to it before Her Majesty's Consul there.

Permit me to assure your Lordship that the proceedings of this Mission will be conducted with prudence and a careful regard to existing conditions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON.

No. 104.

Foreign Office to Southern Morocco Mission.

Foreign Office, August 7, 1891.

Sir, I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant in regard to the proceedings of the agents of your Mission at Morocco city.

I am to state to you, in reply, that his Lordship has been glad to receive the assurance that the work of the Mission will be conducted with prudence and a careful regard to the conditions of the country.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 105.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 11.)

(No. 12. Consular.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 5, 1891.

IN my despatch No. 6 of the 2nd May, 1889, I had the honour to submit to your Lordship a question that had arisen between Mrs. Leared, a British subject, and Mr. Stalker, a British pensioner, but now Vice-Consul here for the United States of America, regarding the right of the latter to open out a window in his house overlooking, as is alleged, Mrs. Leared's garden.

I received no reply to that despatch, but Her Majesty's late Minister, who happened at that time to be in London on leave of absence, was instructed to endeavour to effect a settlement of the question on his return to Tangier.

Sir William Kirby Green discussed the case fully with the then United States' Consul, Mr. Reid Lewis, but was unable to arrive at any solution of the matter.

Shortly afterwards Mr. Lewis was removed, and Mr. Mathews, a friend of Mrs. Leared, was appointed in his stead, and, speaking to him on the subject, he assured me that Mrs. Leared and Mr. Stalker had become friends, and had settled the question amicably. Mrs. Leared, however, on her return to Tangier a few months since, informed me that she had not abandoned her claim to have the window built up, and she requested me to press that the case be referred to the local Tribunals.

I accordingly addressed a letter to the United States' Consul in that sense, and Mr. Mathews replied that he wished to refer to the Department of State for instructions as to whether the question at issue should be "submitted to Shraa," that is, referred to the Tribunals of the Kadi, as claimed by me, or whether it should be dealt with by the United States' Consular Court.

From the inclosed copy of a letter I have received from Mr. Mathews, your Lordship will learn that the United States' Government holds that it is only questions of title that are required under Article XI of the Madrid Convention, to be decided according to the *lex loci*, and that the case in point is therefore within the competence of the Consular Tribunal.

In your Lordship's despatch No. 4 of the 7th February, 1888, I was instructed with reference to another case that had arisen regarding the right to open out windows, that Moorish Tribunals have exclusive jurisdiction in questions relating to legal rights in connection with real property, and not involving any question of contract or equitable right, and this is the view that has hitherto been taken by the majority of the foreign authorities at Tangier.

The United States' Government having now, however, sent instructions to Mr. Mathews in the sense above indicated, I have no course open to me but to again report the matter in case your Lordship should deem it expedient to cause any representation to be made on the subject at Washington.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 105.

Mr. Mathews to Mr. White.

Sir,

August 4, 1891.

WITH reference to past correspondence relative to the question of a window between Mrs. Leared and Mr. Stalker, I have received an answer from my Government to the second despatch sent from this Consulate-General, wherein the Department fails to find in the language of the XIth Article of the Treaty of Madrid, concluded the 3rd July, 1880, any requirement that the citizens or subjects of the Governments party thereto must submit themselves to the "Shraa" or any other native Tribunal in a case of this kind. That Article, which recognizes the right of all foreigners to hold property in Morocco, but requires that its purchase must take place with the previous consent of the Government, only provides that the title of such property shall be subject to the forms prescribed by the laws of the country, and that any question that may arise concerning this right shall be decided according to the same laws, with the privilege of appeal to the Minister of Foreign Affairs stipulated in the Treaties, and that neither does it appear that Mr. Stalker's title to his property was brought into question by Mrs. Leared; therefore, this particular controversy does not differ in character from any other mere private controversy between two non-Moorish residents.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. A. MATHEWS.

No. 106.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Pauncefote.

(No. 193.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 14, 1891.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of correspondence respecting a case which has arisen between Mrs. Leared, a British subject, and Mr. Stalker, a British pensioner,

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but now United States' Vice-Consul at Tangier, regarding the right of the latter to open out a window in his house overlooking, as is alleged, Mrs. Leared's garden.*

The point at issue is whether the case in question should be referred for decision to the Moorish Tribunals or to the United States' Consular Court.

It has hitherto been maintained by Her Majesty's Government and the majority of the foreign Representatives at Tangier, that under the Madrid Convention of the 3rd July, 1880, the Moorish Tribunals have exclusive jurisdiction in questions relating to legal rights in connection with real property, and not involving any question of contract or equitable right.

For your more complete information upon this point I annex Memoranda drawn up in 1888, and I may add that the Law Officers reported in the above sense in 1881 and in 1888.

The United States' Government, however, appear to hold that it is only questions of title that are required under Article XI of the Madrid Convention to be decided according to the *lex loci*, and that the present case is, therefore, within the competence of the United States' Consular Court.

In view of the practical unanimity of view held by the foreign Representatives in Morocco, and of the desirability of avoiding all conflict of jurisdiction, I should wish you to endeavour to obtain a reconsideration of this case by the United States' Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 107.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 20.)

(No. 62.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 13, 1891.

ACCOUNTS having appeared in the press regarding the recent attack on the Jews at Morocco city, I think it right to place your Lordship in possession of the facts as reported to me by Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador in a private letter, an extract from which I have the honour to transmit herewith.

The outbreak took its origin from the seizure by the Jews of a Moorish "taleb" (Anglicè "student," but applied to all the literate class), who was supposed to be carrying off a Jewish boy in order to discover some hidden treasure by the performance of a magical spell involving the sacrifice of the boy.

Later accounts state that the disturbance subsided when it was discovered that the "taleb" had not been killed by the Jews as was at first believed, and happily the consequences have apparently not been more serious than some knocks and bruises given and received.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 107.

Consul Payton to Mr. White.

(Private.)

(Extract.)

Mogador, July 28, 1891.

YOU may have already heard of a recent effervescence of feeling between Moors and Jews at Marakesh. A Jewish account from that city dated the 26th July, is that some time previously to the special outbreak of the 24th a Moorish "taleb" had come to the Mellah and carried off or decoyed away a young Jewish boy, and the boy was rescued and Moor taken before the Basha, when a book of magic was found in his possession; that last Friday another "taleb" came to the Mellah, got hold of a child for magical purposes, but was stopped, child rescued, and Jews were taking the "taleb" before the Basha. On the way some country Moors interfered to rescue the "taleb" and there was a violent struggle, in course of which the "taleb" received a blow in the stomach, which caused him to faint; then the cry was raised, "The Jews are killing the Moors," and there was a great tumult; the Mellah was closed, and all Jews found in

* Madrid Convention ("Morocco No. 1, 1881"); Memoranda by Sir E. Hertslet, &c., March 1888; Consul White, No. 6, Consular, May 2, 1889; and *ante*, No. 105.

the Medina were set upon and ill-treated; some got back to the Mellah in a damaged condition, others remained in hiding in the Medina. There is a curious mediæval flavour about this account, but we live here in a country of mediæval manners and customs in many respects.

No. 108.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 20.)

(No. 63. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 13, 1891.

REPORTS recently received from Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador seem to indicate that the French have recommenced their intrigues in Soos with the Ben Hashem and Bairook families. Successive French Consuls at Mogador have at various times been in secret correspondence with members of these families, but up to the present time with no apparent result, probably because these Chiefs have been suspicious of the French, and could get no guarantee as to the extent of their protection from the vengeance of their Sovereign.

The people of Soos are more enterprising than their countrymen north of the Atlas, and they would undoubtedly be glad to have a trade outlet on their coast. To the French it would also be of importance to have a footing on that shore, whence there is easy access to the oases north of the Sahara, which are coveted by them.

In a letter under date of the 27th ultimo Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador transmits an extract from a private letter that had been shown him, a copy of which is inclosed herewith; it is therein stated that a Treaty had been made with Ould Cid Hosein Ben Hashem by a "M. Henry," providing for importing and exporting, and that this Treaty had come into the possession of the Spanish Government. The "M. Henry" here mentioned is presumably M. Henry P. de la Martinière, who was at Tarudant at the commencement of this year; in mentioning European names in Arabic documents it is not uncommon to give only the Christian name.

I took an opportunity of inquiring of the Spanish Minister whether he had any knowledge of this alleged Treaty, but he replied that he was not aware of any such document having been transmitted to the Spanish Government.

I have the honour to inclose herewith copy of a private letter from Mr. Payton of the 29th ultimo, in which he states that he has received confirmation of the reports as to the French intrigues in Soos.

Should the French eventually succeed in obtaining a footing in Soos, they would doubtless at once extend their territory southwards, and shut out the North-West Africa Company's factory at Cape Juby. They would also get the monopoly of the Soudan trade that had hitherto passed through Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 108.

Vice-Consul Hunot to Vice-Consul Johnson.

(Extract.)

July 23, 1891.

I HAVE not heard of the French intrigues with Ould Cid Hosein latterly, but I know that a Treaty was propounded by M. Henry, I think with the consent of the French Foreign Office. This Treaty provided for importing and exporting. It was written in Arabic. It was sent up with Sheikh-el-Habib's papers (Would Bairook of Wadnoun), which papers were sent to the Spanish Government.

Inclosure 2 in No. 108.

Consul Payton to Mr. White.

(Secret.)

Dear Mr. White,

Mogador, July 29, 1891.

I HAVE just heard in a very confidential manner that there is some correspondence going on between the French Consulate here and Ould Cid Hosein Ben Hashem. The latter, it is said, has been asked to use his influence with certain tribes in the

outh in favour of any attempts of the French to enter into business relations down here.

Ould Cid Hosein is reported to have replied that if the foreigners were strong enough, and well backed up, he would be happy to keep them.

I give you this in confidence, and for what it may be worth.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. A. PAYTON.

No. 109.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 20.)

(No. 64.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 14, 1891.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant, inquiring whether any steps have yet been taken to obtain a settlement of the British claim for 300*l.* arising out of the looting of the "San Francisco," I have the honour to report that, upon receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 13 of the 10th April, directing me to co-operate with the Spanish Minister in obtaining a settlement of the claim, I called upon M. Figuera and communicated to him my instructions. In answer to my inquiry M. Figuera stated that he had presented the claim at the Shereefian Court and demanded its settlement, but that he had not yet received any reply.

I also addressed a letter to Hadj Mohammed Torres, informing him that cargo to the value of 300*l.* on board the "San Francisco" was the property of a British firm, and that I had received from your Lordship the bills of lading which the Company had presented in proof of their claim.

With their usual dilatoriness the Moorish authorities did not reply to M. Figuera's letter until a few days since, when a letter was addressed to him stating that they admitted the principle of the claim, but required to examine the amount. Hadj Mohammed Torres had also, when I have spoken to him on the subject, stated to me that he considered 300*l.* excessive, considering the nature of the cargo.

I have requested Messrs. Levy and Co., of Gibraltar, the shippers of the cargo, to furnish me with a detailed account in support of their claim, in order that I may hand it to Hadj Mohammed Torres.

I have no doubt that there will be no difficulty in obtaining from the Moorish Government payment of the amount actually lost by the British firm.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 110.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 20.)

(No. 9.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, August 20, 1891.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Dering No. 133 of the 15th ultimo, and to my despatch No. 35 of the 5th May, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have just received a visit from Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres, Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, who had been ordered by the Sultan to make the following communication to me, and to the Ministers of Italy and Spain, and to ask for advice.

When M. Patenôtre was at the Shereefian Court at Morocco city, he had, on behalf of the French Government, put forward a claim to the Oasis of Tuat. The Sultan thereupon placed before the French Minister proofs that Tuat had been ruled by Governors placed by himself, and had always formed an integral part of the Moorish Empire. M. Patenôtre did not pursue the matter further, and His Shereefian Majesty heard no more on the subject until M. Hélonis, Dragoman of the French Legation, reached Rabat, having been sent there by the French Chargé d'Affaires, as reported in my despatch No. 66 of the 15th instant. M. Hélonis, on being received by the Sultan, stated that he was under instructions to inform His Majesty that the Oasis of Tuat was embraced within the Algerian frontier, and that the Sultan's claim thereto could not be entertained by the French Government, and that he was accordingly to demand His Shereefian Majesty's acquiescence in this claim.

The Italian Minister on receiving this communication had advised Hadj Mohammed Torres to write at once to the Sultan, and urge His Majesty to yield to the French in all demands they might make regarding the recent attack on the Frenchman, and to be careful to give them no grounds for complaint on other questions, but to be firm in withstanding the French claims to Tuat, and to request M. Hélonis to address him the claim in writing. M. Cantagalli further recommended the Sultan to endeavour to gain time by leaving Rabat as soon as possible.

I informed Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres that the advice given by the Italian Minister seemed to me to be sound, and I added that he might suggest to the Sultan to quote the Map published by the French War Office in 1848. This Map was prepared after the delimitations of the frontier, subsequent to the Treaty of Peace, and in it Tuat is marked as lying within the Moorish frontier.

Considering that it was not improbable that, in order to give additional force to his demand, M. Hélonis might assert to the Sultan that by virtue of the Anglo-French Agreement of August last, England has conceded to France the Oasis of Tuat, I informed Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres that that instrument contained nothing to that effect, and I requested his Excellency to communicate that statement to the Sultan, in order that His Majesty might be forewarned.

No. 111.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 22.)

(No. 65.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 14, 1891.

NEWS has just reached me that the Sultan entered Rabat at midday on the 11th instant.

It is not known how long His Majesty will remain at Rabat, but as some of the neighbouring tribes have been harassing some of the detached bodies of the Sultan's army, and robbing trains of baggage animals, it is probable that His Majesty may halt some weeks there, in order to send out punitive expeditions. I propose to send the elephant presented by Her Majesty the Queen as soon as I learn that the Sultan is ready to receive it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 112.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 22.)

(No. 66.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 15, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that M. Hélonis, Dragoman of the French Legation, accompanied by one of the Attachés, left Tangier yesterday for Rabat to meet the Sultan.

The French Chargé d'Affaires states that his object in sending M. Hélonis to the Court is to press for satisfaction for the attack on M. Goffard, in Morocco city, in June last.

M. Goffard, as mentioned in my despatch No. 50 of the 30th June, was stabbed by a fanatic whilst quietly walking in Morocco city. The wound was happily not so serious as was at first thought, and he has, I believe, now quite recovered.

The French, I believe, demand the execution of the would-be assassin, but the Court authorities state that he is a lunatic and unaccountable for his actions, and that they have sent him to be imprisoned in a distant district.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 25.)

(No. 68. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 18, 1891.

THE Sultan, although very jealous of allowing foreigners to work any mines, or even to examine into the mineral wealth of this country, is fully aware of their importance, and of the profit to be derived therefrom. His Majesty's reluctance to avail himself of the riches placed at his disposal by Nature arises in a great measure from his fear of exciting the cupidity of other nations, who, he thinks, were they to know the natural resources of Morocco, would be more anxious to seize upon it. It is also in accordance with the general policy of His Shereefian Majesty to smother as much as possible commercial enterprise of all sorts, lest foreigners should be attracted to Morocco.

It is possible that the Sultan, whose desire to accumulate wealth is great, may at length yield to the temptation of working some mines on his own account. He has of late years paid some attention to the subject, and has caused specimens of ore to be assayed. The ignorance of the people of such subjects has caused them probably to pass over the most valuable ores, and to select others that contain no precious metal at all.

Kaid Maclean, at the request of the Sultan, recently sent fourteen specimens of ore to England to be assayed, and he has just communicated to me most confidentially a note of the results. Of the fourteen specimens only five were assayed, the others probably, though appearing to a person ignorant of mineralogy to contain gold or silver, were really of no value.

Herewith I have the honour to inclose a note of the results of the assay, in case they may be of interest to your Lordship.

Were the country to be prospected by experts, it is probable that great mineral wealth would be found. Besides gold and silver, copper, iron, antimony, manganese, and mercury, other metals are known to exist; also coal and petroleum.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 113.

RESULTS of Assay of Ores from South Morocco.

Description of Ore.	Per Ton.	
	Gold.	Silver.
	Dwts. grs.	Dwts. grs.
Clay and sand, agglomerations, with magnetite ..	0 22	10 4
Ocherous sand, with magnetite ..	Trace	5 5
Pinkish clay, with magnetite and pyrites ..	"	5 21
Golden coloured powder, with magnetite ..	"	18 2
Irregular lumps, magnetite and pyrites ..	"	11 1

No. 114.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 43.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 25, 1891.

YOUR telegram No. 9 of the 21st instant respecting the claim advanced by the French Government to the Oasis of Tuat has been received.

The language which you held to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to his communication on this subject is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

Mr. Egerton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 26.)

(No. 307.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 25, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's despatch of yesterday's date, inclosing the telegram of Mr. White No. 9 of the 21st instant respecting the French claim to Tuat, and I shall take a favourable opportunity of alluding to the subject to M. Nisard to-morrow.

I see in the meeting which took place a fortnight ago of the Geographical Society at Rochefort, the Congress declared itself in favour of prompt and energetic action in the south of Oran in the direction of Tuat, with the prolongation to that oasis of the line from Oran to Ain-sefra, in view of the Western Sahara line, which it is hoped will eventually join Algeria to the French Soudan.

The project of making this line via Tuat has been constantly ventilated, and in the Paris newspapers of last year, it was assumed that no objection from foreign Powers would be raised to the railway taking that route.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

No. 116.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 27.)

(No. 70. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 20, 1891.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 9 of this date, reporting to your Lordship the communication made to me by Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres regarding the French demand for the Oasis of Tuat, I beg to make the following observations.

At the time the demand was put forward by M. Patenôtre when at the Shereefian Court, the greatest secrecy was maintained by the Sultan and his Ministers, the Vizier Gharnit having, when questioned by M. de Vismes de Ponthieu, distinctly denied that the French had put forward any claim to the Tuat district (see my despatch No. 35 of the 5th May), and the Italian Minister, who is usually well informed as to what is passing at the Court, could obtain no definite intelligence on the subject.

The difference of the present attitude of the Sultan leads one to conclude that the French have now put forward their demand in peremptory terms, that whilst before His Shereefian Majesty considered himself able to withstand the French claim by proving his own title to the oasis, he now finds that all argument is useless, and that his only hope lies in the support of the friendly Powers.

I fear, however, that whilst taking diplomatic steps in Morocco the French may be taking other steps in Algeria, and that when the news has had time to reach us from that remote region, we may learn that the French have already occupied the oasis, the French Government probably deeming this a favourable moment for a forward movement, when the Sultan is believed to be very uneasy at the unsettled state of the country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 117.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 27.)

(No. 71.)

My Lord,

Tangier, August 21, 1891.

DISQUIETING rumours are rife as to the unsettled and dangerous condition of a large portion of this country; all the hill tribes are stated to be in open revolt, and the infection is said to be spreading to the neighbouring tribes, hitherto more submissive only because the country they inhabit is less inaccessible to the Sultan's troops. Latest advices from Rabat report that the Sultan entered that town precipitately, that his rear-guard was attacked and put to flight, that large caravans which had left Rabat for Dar-al-Baida had been plundered, and that the roads between Rabat and

Dar-al-Baida on the one side, and Rabat and Mequinez on the other, were cut off by the uprising of the tribes.

Herewith I have the honour to inclose an article from the local paper "Le Réveil du Maroc,"* which paints the state of the country in very dark colours, and goes so far as to suggest that the Powers should concert together measures to be adopted in case of need for the protection of the lives and property of Europeans in the coast towns.

In this despatch I propose to endeavour to explain the real state of the country, so far as I have been able to ascertain it, by comparing the various reports and sifting them as well as possible under the circumstances; but in Morocco it is extremely difficult to obtain really reliable information on subjects of this nature, and it is not easy to follow the intricacies of these tribal wars, in which at one time a tribe will be assisting the Sultan against its neighbour, and next moment one hears of both tribes being united together against the Shereefian troops, or perhaps a complete change of rôles has taken place, and the formerly rebellious tribe is now assisting the Sultan in "eating up" His Majesty's late ally.

I have had the advantage of a long conversation on the subject with Kaïd Maclean, and have derived much of the following information from him.

He assures me that the Sultan is averse to annihilating a rebellious tribe, thinking that he may some day require its assistance against its neighbours. His Majesty has even expressed himself to Kaïd Maclean as being pleased when his own friends have suffered a reverse at the hands of a hostile tribe, remarking what fine daring men they were, and how well they had delivered the attack.

The Sultan's policy has always been to play one tribe off against another, and, should several tribes appear to be uniting against him, to endeavour by secret emissaries or a judicious granting of Royal favours to excite jealousies and distrust between them.

In this policy His Majesty has hitherto been successful, but he is himself sometimes a sufferer through the jealousy of his *entourage*, who, when some person has rendered good services and advances in the Royal favour, poison His Majesty's mind against the new favourite by asserting that he is meditating some treachery, whilst at the same time they go secretly to the latter and warn him to fly before it is too late, and he is cast into a dungeon never to emerge therefrom alive. This was done in the case of the Berber Chief Mohammed Ben Hamu, of Zayan, a man of great influence amongst the hill tribes between Mequinez and Tedla. This man had made his submission, and was loyally assisting the Sultan, and had a strong following with him, when by Court intrigues he was driven to return to his hills, and is now said to be leading a powerful coalition of the Beni M'tir, Ait Yusi, Beni M'Gild, Ait Shokhman, Ait Ishak, and Zayan in opposition to the Sultan.

The Berber tribes inhabiting the mountainous district between Morocco city, Fez, and Taflelt, though acknowledging the Sultan as their Spiritual Chief, and even titular Sovereign, had long been free of any of the inconveniences of government, and were practically independent. They had hitherto paid tithes to the Great Sanctuary at Taflelt, the cradle of the present Shereefian dynasty, and the home of that family. These tithes were regarded as a kind of first-fruits offering whereby prosperity was secured to them. The fund thus collected at the Sanctuary was set apart for the purposes of a "Jehad," or holy war.

All former Sultans of this dynasty contributed to this fund, and the present Sultan followed the example of his ancestors until recent years, when, instead of sending any gift to the Sanctuary, he asked for money from the fund for the purpose of building fortifications and purchasing arms. On a grant being refused His Majesty resolved to get it indirectly by making the Berbers pay taxes to his Treasury instead of sending tithes to the Sanctuary.

The Sultan commenced by making expeditions to the outlying Berber tribes, and has since been gradually carrying his incursions further into the heart of the mountains. In 1888 he made an expedition against the powerful Beni M'Gild, but shortly afterwards His Majesty's brother, Mulai Mohammed Surur, who had been sent to collect taxes in the Ait Shokhman tribe, was treacherously murdered, together with his following (see Sir W. K. Green's despatch No. 100 of the 11th August, 1888).

The instigator of this attack was said to be Cid Mohammed Elarli, a Derkawi Shereef of Taflelt, and a connection of the Sultan. His Majesty demanded the surrender of this Shereef, but he has since that time been harboured by various tribes, and is now residing at Ain Meski, M'dagra, in the Ait Atta district near Taflelt;

* Not printed.

he has a powerful coalition of tribes under his control, viz., Ait Isdeg, Ait Atta, Ait Hadidu, Ait Melrad, Ait Yahya, and Oulad Zabrah.

This is the Shereef referred to in the inclosed article from "Le Réveil du Maroc" as already playing the Sultan. The French have reason to dislike and fear this man, for he has given them trouble on their frontier and is a fanatical opponent of the Christians.

As far as I can ascertain, Cid Mohammed Elarli has no such ambitious views as those ascribed to him by the French paper. He has no wish to overthrow the Sultan, but asks that His Majesty should leave the Berbers in peace so that they may be able to continue to pay tithes to the Taflelt Sanctuary as formerly. The Sultan has lately been making overtures to this Shereef, but he is too cautious to trust himself within reach of His Majesty.

It is not unlikely that the Sultan may make an expedition to Taflelt from Fez next year, for he announced his intention of going there some time since, and he has recently had the road surveyed to ascertain whether it would be suitable for the passage of his army.

Notwithstanding the present apparently critical state of the country, I do not apprehend that there is so much cause for anxiety as stated by some, for the Sultan, although ambitious of extending his power, is extremely cautious, and he will doubtless resort to his usual policy of gaining over some of the more powerful tribes by timely concessions, and owing to their mutual distrust of each other, and fear that if they do not avail themselves of the opportunity of making terms other tribes may be beforehand with them, they will be ready to make their peace with the Sultan on the first opportunity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 118.

Mr. Egerton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 308. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 26, 1891.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 302, Confidential, of the 24th instant,* and to my despatch No. 307 of yesterday's date, I observe, on looking back to the various Trans-Sahara Railway projects that have been ventilated here during the last two years, that the suzerainty of Morocco over Touat is either ignored or denied in them.

Thus it is pointed out that, when General Gallifet, in February 1873, made his expedition to El Goleah, Ambassadors were sent from Insalah or Ainsalah, the main town of Touat, asking for French protection, as they said they feared that otherwise they might fall into the hands of the Sultan of Fez.

No result, however, followed this Embassy from the Touaregs of Insalah.

Touat is now claimed by French writers as being in the French zone from its situation in the "Hinterland" of Algeria, being considerably to the east of the second meridian of longitude west of Greenwich; indeed, it is even east of the meridian of Greenwich itself.

To Rohlfs, the traveller, who argues that all the country south of the Oasis of Figuig is under the influence of Morocco, it is answered by M. Rolland that, in his journey in 1864, M. Rohlfs must have seen that that influence did not actually extend further south than Abouam and Oum Dribina; in other words, beyond the immediate slopes of the Atlas.

I have the honour to inclose herewith a French Map, published by the "Journal des Débats" this spring, on which I have marked the three main schemes which have been put forward for the Trans-Saharan Railway route.

The first, or western, route is from Oran to the Niger, and would go through Touat by Oued Massaoura, and so on to Mabrouk and Timbuctoo, or Tamissao and Bouroum.

The second, which is that which has been approved by the Technical Commission and the "Conseil Supérieur de la Guerre," is the central route, recommended by General Philibert and M. G. Rolland, from Philippeville and Biskra to Tougourt, Ouargla, and then to Amgoid, where there is water in plenty, and from whence the line can be directed to the Niger or to the Tchad. This line will not actually approach

* Transmitting No. 110.

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X

Touat, but French posts at Temassiniu and Amguid will command the main routes to Ghadames and Ghat from that oasis.

Of M. Blanc's projected eastern route to the south via Ghadames, Ghat, and Bilmeh, there need be no question here.

The inhabitants of Touat and Insalah are Touaregs of the Senoussi sect.

The question respecting Touat, therefore, is a question respecting an oasis at the back of French possessions, through which possibly a French railway may run to the Soudan; but even should the line not be carried through the oasis, but to the east of it, as seems most probable, it is clear that, as the French will hold the Sultan of Morocco responsible for any injury caused by those whom he claims to protect, it would probably be more troublesome and costly to that potentate to retain the suzerainty over Touat than to come to some arrangement with France respecting it.

As I did not feel called on to appear to take special interest in a dispute respecting the Protectorate over a desert oasis, not a part of Morocco proper, and as there is no particular advantage that I can see in showing jealousy of Algerian expansion towards the south, I only alluded to-day in a most cursory way, in a desultory conversation with M. Nisard, to the Morocco claim to Touat. M. Nisard said that the Sultan's suzerainty over Touat had in the past been of a most intermittent nature, but he did not speak more on the subject, confining himself to a few general remarks respecting the great difficulty and delicacy of the questions respecting the tribes south of Algiers, the awe in which the Touaregs are held by the settled population, and their relatively small number.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure in No. 118.

Map showing the Trans-Saharan Railway Scheme.

No. 119.

Eastern Telegraph Company to Foreign Office.—(Received September 5.)

*Winchester House, 50, Old Broad Street, London,
September 4, 1891.*

Sir,

IN reference to my letter to you of this day's date, I beg to inclose herewith further telegram just received from our Superintendent at Gibraltar, relative to the action of the Moors in connection with the Spanish land line.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. DRAPER, *pro Secretary.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 119.

The Superintendent, Tangier, to Eastern Telegraph Company.

(Telegraphic.)

Tangier, September 3, 1891.

ANGHERA tribe still offer armed resistance to Spaniards erecting land line in their territory, and defy Sultan's authority. Our land line runs through their ground without opposition.

Reuter's agent wired his news to London last night.

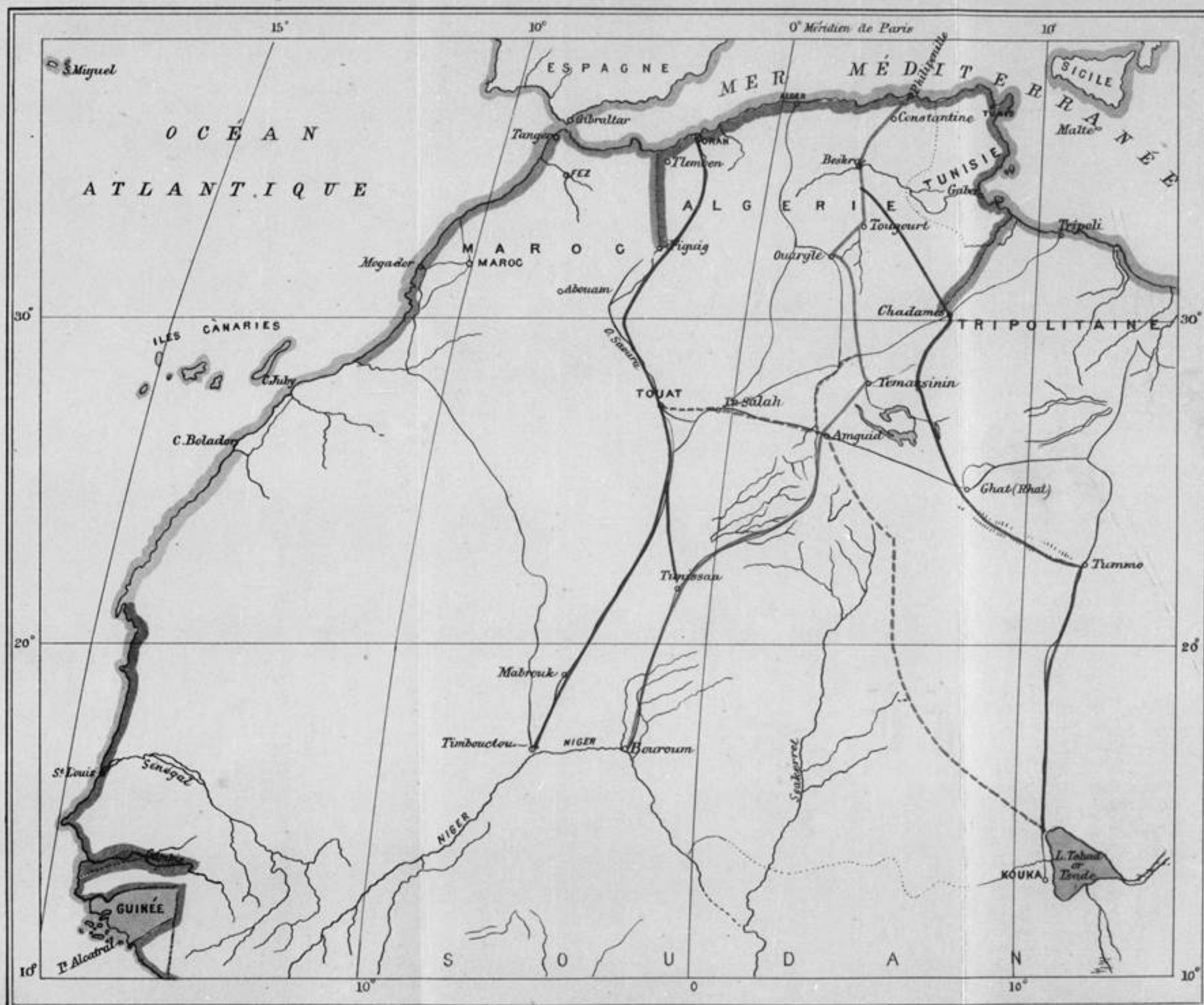
Inclosure 2 in No. 119.

Mr. de Sauty to Eastern Telegraph Company.

(Telegraphic.)

Gibraltar, September 4, 1891.

CHIEF of Anghera tribe was in Tangier to-day, accompanied by strong armed party. He visited Moorish Minister, and put forth his right to impede Spaniards working in his ground.



The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. Dering.

(No. 160A. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 7, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 133 of the 15th July last, I have to inform you that the Italian Ambassador called on the 5th instant at this Office, and recapitulated the information already received from Her Majesty's Representative at Tangier, as to the claim advanced by France for the Oasis of Tuat, and the advice given by the Italian and other Representatives that the Sultan of Morocco should give satisfaction to France in minor matters, should, if pressed on the subject of Tuat, ask that the claim be preferred in writing, and should then consult the other Powers.

Count Tornielli stated that his Government desired to know whether Her Majesty's Government did not think it advisable that some representations on the subject should be made to the French Government, in order to guard against any sudden resolution.

I have informed his Excellency, in reply, that, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, any representation at Paris of the kind suggested was to be deprecated. It would be more likely to precipitate sudden action on the part of France than to prevent it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 121.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 8.)

(No. 74.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 2, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 46 of the 22nd June, reporting the laying of the submarine cable between Tarifa and Tangier, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the posts, wire, &c., for connecting the shore end of the cable with the office in town, were not brought to Tangier till last week, when workmen were sent to erect the posts.

This work was at once put a stop to by men of the Anjera tribe, under Sheikh Weld-el-Hamam, who refused to allow posts to be erected in their district, where the shore end of cable had been landed.

It will be within your Lordship's recollection that similar opposition was encountered by the Eastern Telegraph Company last February, when they substituted an overhead wire for the trench line, the posts being thrown down on two occasions. I was able, however, in the absence of the late Sir William Kirby Green at Morocco city, to make satisfactory arrangements for the future safety of the line (see my despatch No. 8 of the 24th February), and since that time the posts have not been interfered with.

M. Figuera, the Spanish Minister, tells me that, on first learning of the opposition to the erection of the posts, he made a strong representation to Cid Hadj Mohamed Torres, who replied that he would dispatch an express courier to the Governor of Tetuan, under whose jurisdiction are the Anjera tribe, and instruct him to take the necessary steps in the matter. His Excellency asked for a delay of four days, in order that the Governor of Tetuan should have time to reply.

This term having expired yesterday, Hadj Mohamed Torres addressed a letter to M. Figuera, stating that Sheikh Weld-el-Hamam had refused to obey the Governor of Tetuan, and had declared that he would not permit the posts to be erected, even if the Sultan himself ordered it. Under these circumstances, Hadj Mohamed Torres begged M. Figuera to give orders that the work of erecting the posts should be commenced at the town end, but that the line should not be carried into the Anjera district until orders should have been received from the Sultan, to whom he was making a Report of the incident.

M. Figuera has agreed to the request of Hadj Mohamed Torres, and the posts are now in course of erection in the Tangier district.

It is very desirable that a satisfactory settlement of this question should be

speedily arrived at, lest the Anjera people, in opposing the Spanish line, should be tempted to recommence their attack on ours.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 122.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 14.)

(No. 75.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 4, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 44 of the 26th ultimo, transmitting copies of letters addressed to the Foreign Office on the 3rd and 5th ultimo by Mr. Anderson, Honorary Secretary of the Southern Morocco Mission, stating that the charges made against the missionaries are due to some exaggeration or misconception of the circumstances, and that he is satisfied that nothing was done by them to warrant the terms used in my despatch No. 50 of the 30th June.

Mr. Anderson takes especial exception to the "allegations of injudicious proceedings," and of "open preaching," yet he admits that the missionaries "had conversations with individuals when others have joined in and formed little groups;" and Mr. Clarke, in a letter he addressed me on the 18th July, in reply to my letter of warning of the 29th June, states, "We do not now go out into the streets and speak to small gatherings as previously."

My grounds for believing that Messrs. Clarke and Nairn were injudicious in their proceedings were the various reports that reached me to that effect from independent quarters; as an instance, I may mention that Kaïd Maclean wrote to me that he had warned them to be more careful, but that they replied that they did not care what the consequences might be if they could only convert some Moors.

That there was ill-feeling against them is admitted by themselves, for Mr. Clarke, in his above-mentioned letter, writes, "There was quite evidently a coolness of feeling towards us manifested by a few who only knew us slightly, and others who did not know us at all." Mr. Anderson himself states that they were called before the Vizier and Kadi at Morocco city, and charged with attempting to bribe Moors to change their religion. Mr. Payton, in a private letter, dated the 26th June, informed me that he had been "assured that the work of the Scotch missionaries at Morocco city, however quietly carried on, was causing considerable excitement of local feeling against them, which might soon lead to some outbreak fraught with considerable danger to those well-meaning young men;" and, as mentioned in my above-mentioned despatch, both the French officer at Morocco city, and the German Dragoman, lately returned thence, spoke of the excitement caused by the missionaries amongst the Moors of that town.

I am happy to learn from the letters of Messrs. Clarke and Nairn that the feeling against missionaries at Morocco has subsided, and I trust that by exercise of great prudence in their work they may avoid giving rise to any recrudescence of fanaticism. At the same time I have thought it right, after perusal of Mr. Anderson's letters, to show that it was not on light grounds that I ascribed to Messrs. Clarke and Nairn want of tact and imprudence, and that the terms of my despatch No. 50 of the 30th June, were not unwarranted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 123.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 14.)

(No. 76.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 5, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 65 of the 14th ultimo, I have the honour to report that the Sultan left Rabat early on the morning of the 31st ultimo. It is supposed that His Majesty will march to Mequinez through the Beni Hassan country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 124.

Mr. Egerton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 16.)

(No. 336.)

My Lord,

Paris, September 15, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 308 of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship an article from the "Temps" of last night on the question of Tuat, stating that it is one which concerns Algeria and not Morocco, and that the French Agent has warned the Shereefian Government that the occupation by Morocco of a country which enters into the immediate sphere of influence of France would not be allowed.

To-day's "Siècle" is very vehement on this question, and objects to the appointment of Count d'Aubigny, whose Egyptian career showed that he was wanting in energy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure in No. 124.

Extract from "Le Temps" of September 14, 1891.

ALGÉRIE: LA QUESTION DU TOUAT.—Un journal du matin annonçait tout récemment que le Maroc avait occupé les oasis du Touat, et que nos communications entre l'Algérie et le Sénégal se trouvaient ainsi coupées. Au moment où l'on désire relier entre elles nos possessions de l'Afrique Septentrionale et les régions du Soudan qui rentrent dans notre sphère d'intérêts, l'occupation du Touat par le Maroc aurait un caractère de gravité sur lequel on ne pourrait se méprendre.

Fort heureusement, il n'en est rien, et les craintes que l'on avait pu formuler il y a quelque temps ne se sont pas réalisées.

Il est vrai que le Maroc avait, dans ces dernières années, suivi à l'égard des populations du Touat une politique d'action de nature à menacer nos intérêts. Nous disons "populations" du Touat, car il ne s'agit pas, dans l'espèce, d'un pays parfaitement délimité. Le Touat comprend les oasis situées dans le sud de la Province d'Oran, à l'ouest du méridien de Paris, jusque vers le 4° degré de longitude et entre les 27° et 30° degrés de latitude nord. Il se trouve ainsi à l'est de la frontière Marocaine telle qu'elle a été fixée par le Traité de 1845.

La population, qui se trouve répartie dans 343 "ksours," s'élève à environ 200,000 habitants. Elle est composée de quelques tribus Arabes peu nombreuses, de Berbères appartenant à la famille de Zénata, de nègres esclaves, et d'anciens indigènes, qui constituent la caste vassale des Harratin. Elle est sédentaire, a les mêmes mœurs que les "ksouriens" du sud de la Province de Constantine. Elle s'administre, comme les tribus Berbères, au moyen des Assemblées Municipales—les "Djemâa."

Les oasis du Touat sont groupées géographiquement en quatre agglomérations principales: celles du Gourara et de l'Aougerout au nord, celle du Touat proprement dit au sud, et celle du Tidikelt au sud-est, avec sa capitale, In-Salah.

Les Berbères de cette région s'occupant plus particulièrement d'agriculture (on compte plus de 6 millions de palmiers), étaient en contact permanent avec les populations pastorales qui les entourent de tous côtés: les tribus Marocaines au nord-ouest, les Châambas Français au nord-ouest, les Touareg au sud. En outre, leurs oasis étaient traversées, comme celles de Ghadamès et de Rhât, par les caravanes Soudaniennes.

Ces petites Républiques ont toujours été indépendantes. Les Sultans du Maroc avaient tenté autrefois de les conquérir, mais sans succès. Entourées de tribus bataillieuses de tous les côtés, elles désiraient, en somme, être bien avec leurs voisins pour éviter les difficultés qui auraient pu troubler leur tranquillité.

Pendant de longues années on ne s'est pas trop préoccupé d'elles en France, bien que tous les dissidents Algériens fussent assurés d'y trouver un asile rendu inviolable par les 600 kilom. de désert qui les séparent de Laghoat, notre poste autrefois le plus avancé.

Toutefois, comme la police de nos frontières nécessitait une surveillance étroite des oasis du Touat, l'Administration Algérienne s'est ingéniée à avoir des relations suivies avec les Chefs de ces territoires. Ces derniers s'y ont prêtés avec plus ou moins de

bonne grâce, ne voulant pas mécontenter leurs puissants voisins ; à un moment même, ils ont été jusqu'à faire des offres de soumission ; c'était au moment où le Général de Galliffet se trouvait, en 1873, à El Golea, à 400 kilom. du Gourara.

Mais depuis une dizaine d'années les choses ont changé. Les Chefs du Touat nous sont devenus hostiles. Le conciliabule des Touareg, où s'est décidé le massacre de la mission Flatters, a eu lieu à In-Salah, et les "ksouriens" du Touat ont craint des représailles. Ils se sont tournés du côté du Sultan du Maroc, et ont demandé une protection éventuelle contre nous.

Le Sultan Mouley Hassan, poussé par les sectateurs du Sénoussisme établis dans le Sud Marocain, au Tafilelt, et par les Agents de quelques Puissances Européennes, y a répondu, mollement d'abord, plus sérieusement ensuite. Avec toute la diplomatie Orientale, c'est-à-dire avec la plus grande prudence, pour ne pas éveiller les susceptibilités de la France, dont l'influence au Maroc, bien qu'amoindrie, était encore importante, il établit progressivement des relations de plus en plus étroites avec les Chefs Touatien.

En 1886 les "Djemâa" de Touat envoyèrent un message au Sultan. La réponse vint de suite : Mouley Hassan se déclarait leur Souverain, et revendiquait ses droits sur leur territoire.

L'année suivante une sorte d'Ambassade, composée de Délégués du Gourara, du Touat proprement dit, et du Tidikelt, partait pour le Maroc avec des présents et un tribut d'une quarantaine de nègres et de négresses. Mouley Hassan l'accueillit avec faveur, et voulut profiter de l'occasion pour rattacher administrativement le Touat à son Empire.

Mais les Touatien ne voulaient qu'une protection éventuelle et non une annexion déguisée. Si l'on reçut avec transport la lettre de remerciements du Sultan, par contre, on se montra si peu enthousiaste de la présence de ses envoyés qu'il y eut des difficultés pour leur trouver un logement. En même temps, l'un des Ambassadeurs, qui s'était imaginé revenir dans l'agglomération du Touat proprement dit comme représentant du Sultan, dut au plus vite quitter le pays. Au fond, les Touatien tiennent surtout à leur indépendance, et les projets du Maroc auraient rencontré de grands obstacles si l'occupation d'El Golea, il y a quatre ans, par un détachement de Sphahis n'avait déterminé chez eux une recrudescence de leur crainte.

Cette occupation permanente d'El Golea était devenue nécessaire pour éviter les défections de quelques tribus Châambas. On avait une certaine tendance dans le Sud Algérien, à la suite de l'inaction qui a suivi le massacre de la mission Flatters, à croire que nous étions impuissants à nous faire respecter. L'assassinat du Lieutenant Palat en 1886, à l'instigation des Touatien d'In-Salah, ne fut pas vengé et fit la plus mauvaise impression sur nos alliés. Pour les rassurer et pour maintenir les Châambas dans l'obéissance, on envoya un officier et quelques hommes dans l'extrême sud.

Mais cette démonstration ne suffit pas. Bou Amma, le chef de l'insurrection Oranaise de 1882, réfugié à Deldoun, entre le Gourara et le Touat proprement dit, tout en paraissant observer la plus grande neutralité, ne cessait d'appuyer les tentatives des Marocains. Les envoyés de Mouley Hassan parcoururent pendant toute l'année 1888 toutes les oasis de la région et s'efforcèrent de percevoir des tributs sous forme d'offrandes adressées au chef religieux du Maroc et de faire le recensement exact des habitants et de leurs plantations.

Revenus à Fez, au mois de Février 1889, avec des esclaves, les Délégués du Sultan purent faire croire que la possession du Touat était un fait accompli et décider Muley Hassan à y renvoyer de nouveaux Représentants, qui n'y furent pas très favorablement accueillis d'ailleurs. Mais notre Gouvernement comprit alors qu'il n'était que temps de couper court à ces menées. C'est alors que l'on préconisa l'envoi d'une colonne expéditionnaire. Mais, pour éviter un échec qui aurait été le signal d'un vaste soulèvement, il fallait mettre en mouvement de 1,500 à 2,000 hommes, avec un convoi de 8,000 à 10,000 chameaux. C'était un effort considérable exigeant de gros sacrifices financiers, et l'on s'est demandé si l'occupation effective du Touat valait ces sacrifices et n'était pas possible à moins de frais.

Il fut reconnu que les velléités annexionnistes des Marocains étaient encouragées par notre indécision, indécision exploitée à la fois par les conseillers de Muley Hassan et par les Chefs du Touat, à l'instigation des Senoussiates du Tafilelt, de Bou-Amma, et des Touareg. Un changement d'attitude au Maroc et une accentuation de notre politique dans le Sud Algérien pouvaient peut-être permettre de résoudre plus facilement le problème. C'est ce que l'on a fait.

Notre Gouvernement adressa au Sultan du Maroc des observations motivées et

lui signifia, très nettement, qu'il ne permettrait pas l'occupation par ses Agents d'une région qui rentre dans notre sphère d'intérêts immédiats. Ce langage, qui ne prêtait pas à équivoque, fut compris et ne souleva aucune objection, car la question du Touat n'est pas une question Marocaine, mais simplement une affaire Algérienne, concernant nos relations avec les populations Sahariennes.

En même temps, on se décidait à occuper très solidement El Golea. La création d'un corps de Méharistes fut décidée et nous avons, à diverses reprises, donné des renseignements très complets sur l'organisation de cette force armée.

Le retentissement de cette formation fut très grand dans tout le Sahara Algérien. Les tribus Châambas, qui étaient indécises sur l'attitude à prendre, donnèrent des gages de fidélité et se montrèrent même disposées à nous seconder en vue d'une action militaire dans le sud. Le développement de nos troupes Sahariennes contribuera d'autant plus à décider les Touatien à se retourner vers nous qu'ils verront que le Maroc suspend ses projets annexionnistes.

On peut supposer que cette politique, aussi ferme que prudente, portera ses fruits.

No. 125.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. Dering.

(No. 165. Confidential.)

Foreign Office, September 16, 1891.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 160 A of the 7th instant, I have to inform you that the Italian Ambassador called on the 9th instant, and said that he had received further despatches from his Government with regard to the claim of France on the Oasis of Tuat, the substance of which he thought it right to communicate.

The reports received by the Italian Government from their Legation at Tangier showed that the Representatives of Italy, Great Britain, Germany, Spain, and Austria-Hungary had all given the Moorish Government identic advice as to the nature of the reply which should be returned to the French demand.

The Cabinet of Rome thought this unanimity very satisfactory, and trusted that any instructions which Her Majesty's Representative might receive would contribute to maintain it.

As regards the position of the Oasis of Tuat, reference might be made to the Map of the French General Staff, compiled in 1848 by Captain Beaudoin. This Map, published three years after the conclusion of the Treaty of 1845 between France and Morocco, assigns to Morocco the sovereignty over the territory of Tuat, and the present pretensions of the French Government are in opposition to these recognized rights of sovereignty.

Count Tornielli added that he had not failed to inform his Government that I was not in favour of any direct representations at Paris upon this matter at present.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 126.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 17.)

(No. 77.)

Tangier, September 7, 1891.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 26 of the 12th May last and to my despatch No. 43 of the 2nd June, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Austrian Minister lately read to me a despatch he had received from his Vice-Consul at Mogador, reporting a rumour of the arrival of a British squadron at Cape Juby, and inquired whether I had any information on the subject. I replied that I was not aware of any British ships being in those waters, and that I considered it very improbable that a British squadron could be there at the present time.

I have now received a letter from Mr. Payton, Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador, referring to the same rumour. He says: "Reports are current here that a number of foreign men-of-war (some say seventeen) were recently observed off the southern coast, somewhere between Aglool and Wad Noon."

Too much reliance must not be placed on reports brought up from the south by Arabs, but at the same time, it is difficult to suppose that the rumour should have arisen without any foundation whatever. I have, therefore, requested Mr. Payton to endeavour to obtain more definite information on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 127.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 17.)

(No. 78.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 7, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 74 of the 2nd instant, reporting the difficulty that had arisen with respect to the Spanish telegraphic cable owing to the opposition of the Anjera people to the erection of telegraph posts in their district, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the matter has now been satisfactorily settled, and the posts are being erected without opposition.

Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres informs me that the Anjera Sheikh Weld-el-Haman was induced to withdraw his opposition by the Elders of his tribe, who pointed out to him that if they continued to resist the Sultan would probably send troops to sack their villages and capture their Chiefs; they would thus have to submit in the end, and would all be ruined to no purpose.

It is a source of satisfaction to all right-minded persons that wiser counsels have prevailed, and that this incident, which might have led to serious consequences, can now happily be regarded as closed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 128.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 17.)

(No. 79.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 8, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 66 of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to report that M. Helonis, Dragoman of the French Legation, has succeeded in effecting a settlement of the claim arising out of the attack at Morocco city on the French citizen M. Goffard.

The Sultan has consented to pay the sum of 5,000 fr. as an indemnity to M. Goffard; the would-be-assassin is to be imprisoned for life at Mazargan, where he will be under the eye of the French Consular Agent, who will be able to see that the sentence is being duly carried out; and the Sultan is to address a letter to the Governor of Morocco city, who is to read it publicly to all the Notables. This letter, which is to be prepared by the Vizier and M. Helonis, is to contain orders to the Governor to issue a general warning that any attack upon Christians will be severely punished.

It is to be hoped that these measures may have a salutary effect, and that they may act as a check on any meditated attack upon Christians.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 129.

Secretary of Lloyd's to Foreign Office.—(Received September 19.)

Sir,

Lloyd's, September 18, 1891.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Committee of Lloyd's, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated yesterday, inclosing copies of despatches from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier* respecting the opposition encountered in the laying of the cable between Tangier and Tarifa, and to beg that you will be so good as to convey to the

* Nos. 121 and 127

Marquis of Salisbury the best thanks of the Committee for the information contained in these despatches.

I am, &c.
(For the Secretary),
(Signed) JOHN HOUGH.

No. 130.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 22.)

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(No. 81. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 12, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that the French Dragoman, M. Hélonis, returned to Tangier from Rabat yesterday, having, as reported in my despatch No. 79 of the 8th instant, brought to a satisfactory settlement the question that had arisen out of the attack on M. Goffard.

No further news has reached Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres from the Court as to the demand put forward by M. Hélonis for the Tuat Oasis, the Sultan by his sudden departure from Rabat having cut short for the moment all further discussion of the matter. M. Hélonis informed me that, after the departure of the Sultan, it was impossible for him to continue in communication with the Court, as the state of the country prevented the passage of couriers.

On the 2nd instant I received from Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres a letter, of which translation is inclosed herewith. Identical letters were addressed to the Representatives of Italy, Spain, Germany, and Austria.

Shortly after receiving this letter, Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres called upon me, and begged to be allowed to withdraw it on account of the inaccuracies it contained, explaining that the Vizier, from whom he had received the note ready drafted, had evidently misunderstood his letter communicating the hint I had given him to refer the French Government to the Map published in 1848 by their own War Office shortly after the delimitation of the Mauro-Algerian frontier.

I returned the letter to Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres, as requested, but not receiving the corrected letter to replace it, as promised, I took an early opportunity of inquiring the reason of the delay. His Excellency replied that, upon reconsideration, he had thought it more prudent not to address such a letter to the Representatives of the friendly Powers, as M. Hélonis had put forward the demand only verbally, not in writing; and it was therefore possible that the French Government, if approached on the subject by other Governments, might deny that they had made such a demand, and might be annoyed if they learnt that the Sultan had made an appeal to the other Governments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 130.

Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres to Mr. White.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

28 Muharrem, 1309 (September 2, 1891).

I HAVE to inform you that the French nation claims that the district of Tuat belongs to them, and that (its inhabitants) are their subjects, although this has not been asserted before, nor did it occur to them, nor did they account it so until the present time, when this idea has sprung into existence because they so wish it. They do not regard the proofs and documents which exist, and which show that this district belonged to the dominions of our Lord (may God make Him victorious) both in olden times and in modern times. Of these the strongest proof and clearest testimony in refutation of their claim, and one which stands up in array against them, is the fact that in the Map, which was drawn up with the concurrence of all the nations in the year of the Christian era 1884 [sic], it is mentioned that the district of Tuat belongs to the dominions of our Lord (whom may God strengthen). You are aware that all the nations approved this Map, and gave their signatures in token of its correctness and of their adhesion thereto, and by way of restraining any who might wish to violate it. There is no doubt that your Government possesses a copy of this Map. Another proof is that the people of this district do not cease to invoke the name of our

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Lord in the mosques, and to pray for His Majesty in their pulpits up to the present time. Another proof is that the (Sultan's) Governors in their neighbourhood are those who rule them, and they pay their taxes and tithes into the Imperial Treasury, and every year Commissioners of Revenue go to collect their taxes. They address their letters to His Shereefian Majesty, and their allegiance has continued without interruption. They were subjects of our Lords the Kings, the predecessors (of His present Majesty), and their letters and allegiance did never cease during their lifetime, and it still exists and is manifest.

The Sultan has now ordered me to write to you and the other Representatives of friendly Powers to make this known to you, in order that you may take it into consideration, and that you may see that the claimant is not justified in his claim, and in order that you may, in your reply, show how his plans may be frustrated. I know that this statement is all you require, and that you are not at a loss for the means of warding off (this danger) and for turning the (French) from their purpose.

Peace.

(Signed) HADJ MOHAMMED TORRES.

No. 131.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 22.)

(No. 82.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 14, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have just received from Captain Inglefield, reporting his safe arrival at the Sultan's camp in the Zemour country, and the presentation to His Shereefian Majesty of the elephant sent by Her Majesty the Queen.

The Sultan received the elephant from Captain Inglefield at a public audience with the full ceremonial usually accorded only to Ministers, apparently wishing thereby to mark his appreciation of Her Majesty's gift, for there is no doubt that His Shereefian Majesty is much pleased that his wish to possess an elephant has thus been gratified.

The inclosed extract from a private letter I have received by the same courier from Kaïd Maclean shows the satisfaction it has given the Sultan to receive this animal, with which His Majesty appears to have been more pleased than with any of the numerous costly gifts presented to him by the various foreign Ministers.

Considering that Captain Inglefield's presence at the Court would afford a favourable opportunity for obtaining a settlement of some of the more important pending matters, I forwarded through him letters on those subjects addressed to the Vizier, and I requested him to press for satisfactory replies. I trust that the fair promises made by Cid Emfadh Gharneet may be fulfilled by the issuing of Shereefian letters in the sense required. I will, however, not fail to report to your Lordship more fully on Captain Inglefield's return.

It has afforded me considerable satisfaction to learn from Captain Inglefield's despatch that he has received such valuable assistance from Kaïd Maclean, for knowing, as I did, his tact and ability, and the respect in which he is held by all Moors, from the Sultan downwards, I had especially asked that he might be sent to accompany Captain Inglefield.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 131.

Captain Inglefield to Mr. White.

Sultan's Camp, September 6, 1891.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that, in accordance with instructions received from you, I left Tangier on the 24th August last with "Stoke," Her Majesty's gift to the Sultan of Morocco, and proceeded with all dispatch via Alcazar and Meshra-ben El-Ksiri (where the Sebu was crossed without difficulty) towards Rabat, arriving at Kantra (five and a-half hours from Rabat) on the 31st ultimo.

The following morning, when within four hours of Rabat, a letter was received from the Sultan, asking that the elephant might be taken to His Shereefian Majesty's camp at Sidi Alal Bahrowi in the Zemour country, and in consequence of this request I made a

forced march of about 35 miles, and reached the place indicated between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon. His Majesty was most anxious to see the elephant, and I therefore, in accordance with his request, at once took "Stoke" up to the Royal tent, from whence His Majesty, unseen by those without, inspected him.

On the 2nd instant, at daybreak, the Sultan continued his march towards Mequinez, and at 5 o'clock that afternoon I made the presentation, His Majesty receiving the elephant with great ceremony, his brother, his Ministers, all the officials of the Court, and the whole of his permanent army in camp being present.

On delivering over Her Majesty's gift, I gave His Shereefian Majesty assurances that the presentation of an elephant was made in token of the friendly and cordial relations existing between the two countries, relations which we trusted would ever continue unchanged, and I further assured him that the elephant was a quiet one, and I expressed the hope that it would bring him every good fortune.

In reply, His Majesty expressed most cordial friendship for Her Majesty, and gratitude for her greatly valued gift, and he further conveyed to me his thanks for bringing "Stoke" direct to his camp, after which he gave directions for the howdah to be removed and replaced, and for the animal to be fed and watered in his presence.

Throughout the whole proceedings the Sultan displayed the keenest interest in all matters connected with the elephant, and it was not till he had made a thorough examination of the animal and of the elephant's trappings that His Majesty brought to a close, with renewed expressions of satisfaction and pleasure, a ceremony which had been extended far beyond the limits usually assigned to official receptions in this country.

On the 4th instant I laid before the Minister for Foreign Affairs the several questions put forward by you, and I am very pleased to be able to report that Cid Emfadh Gharneet gave me assurances that the approval of His Shereefian Majesty would, without doubt, be obtained. I have, however, yet to receive the necessary letters of authorization.

I beg to bring to your special notice the very valuable assistance I have received, both during the journey and since my arrival at the Court, from Kaïd Maclean, whose intimate knowledge of the country and whose tact and discretion in all matters have very largely contributed to the success of this Mission.

At the presentation, and in my dealings with the Court, Kaïd Maclean acted as my interpreter, and also afforded me great assistance, his connection with the Court, and knowledge of the customs and ways of the people, enabling me to submit your demands in the manner most calculated to insure success.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. T. INGLEFIELD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 131.

Kaïd Maclean to Mr. White.

(Private.)
(Extract.)

September 8, 1891.

AT 5 P.M. we were sent for, and found all the permanent army (about 12,000 men) on parade in a large circle round the Sultan's tent, with the bodyguard on the right, and everything just the same as if a Minister were going to be received in public audience by the Sultan. The elephant had all his trappings on, and the mahout, with a splendid red turban and red uniform, was seated on his neck; the two coolies, also in red uniforms, walked on each side. Captain Inglefield, in full dress, preceded by the Vice-Chamberlain, and with myself a little behind, advanced to the Grand Chamberlain, who presented him to the Sultan.

We did not get away till 6.30 P.M. During the many years that I have been here, I have never seen the Sultan take such keen interest in anything, nor laugh so much or so heartily. He was evidently much pleased; and before we left, he again asked me to express to Captain Inglefield the great pleasure that had been afforded him.

The whole camp is talking of the elephant, who is continuously followed by a large crowd.

Sir J. Lee to Foreign Office.—(Received September 22.)

Dear Sir,

Park Gate, Altrincham, September 21, 1891.
I AM sorry to inform you that the North-West African Company Station at Cape Juby was attacked by the Moors last week. On the 15th we received the following telegram, dated Las Palmas, 14th:—

"Breakfast time Alifal and others broke into Shore-house, seized all arms and ammunition, and rifled store-house, then bolted at Castle fire; no one injured, all quiet now. Letter of 14th explains everything."

By this telegram we understand that our trading-houses on shore have been looted, and that the Manager's letter will explain. I thought that we should wait for this letter before informing you of the circumstance, but this afternoon we received the following alarming despatch:—

"Position at Station bad, Spaniards alarmed; it is not impossible they may require go Lauzarote; plunder insignificant, object massacre, and destruction Shore-houses. Did not know this when first telegraphed; have had a very narrow escape."

From this telegram I conclude that the Staff is safe in the Castle. We have four Englishmen, two Syrians, twenty Spaniards. If the Spaniards desert, the others will be in great danger. The object of the attack has been evidently "massacre," but the Manager of the Station has been on the alert. We were aware that numbers of soldiers were hovering about, but the report among Moors was that they were to prevent Spaniards landing at Puerto Cousado.

I am very anxious about the Staff, and I shall be very grateful if you would order a gun-boat to be sent from Gibraltar to investigate matters at Cape Juby.

I will at once forward any information I receive.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 7.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, September 22, 1891, 6 P.M.

HAVE you any confirmation of a report I have received, to the effect that Cape Juby Station has been attacked, and is now in danger?

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 23.)

(No. 10.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, September 23, 1891.

WITH reference to the telegram from your Lordship No. 7 of the 22nd instant, I have the honour to report that nothing has been heard here of the attack stated to have been made on the North-West Africa Company's Station at Cape Juby. I have communicated on the matter with Hadj Mohammed Torres, who assured me that it was his conviction that if, in fact, there has been any attack, it has been committed by the tribes of the locality, without any instigation on the part of the Sultan.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 24.)

(No. 83.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 15, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 71 of the 21st ultimo, reporting on the alleged disaffection of the Berber tribes and dangerous condition of the country, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received a letter from Kaïd Maclean, written at the Sultan's camp near Mequinez, stating that His Shereefian Majesty had, on his march from Rabat, passed without opposition through the heart of the Zemour tribe, who had made their submission and paid the contributions demanded of them. The Beni-

M'tir had also sent their Headmen to the Sultan's camp, and all anxiety at the Court on account of the tribes was over.

It appears that the Berber Chief, Mahommed-ben-Hammu, though declining to trust himself within the Shereefian camp, gave assurances of loyalty to His Majesty, and exerted his influence to prevent any attack on the Sultan's army by the Zemour tribe.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received September 24.)

(No. 85.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 18, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 64 of the 14th July, I have the honour to report that I have received a note from the Spanish Minister, informing me that the amount of the claim arising out of the looting of the "San Francisco" has been paid into the Spanish Consulate, and that he is awaiting instructions from Madrid as to the manner of distributing the money.

M. Figuera, in reply to my inquiry, stated that, on previous similar occasions when indemnities had been paid, the money was left in deposit, and notice thereof was published in the official Gazette inviting the interested parties to present their claims, which would be paid on the production of proofs of their validity.

He added that, in the case of the cargo, he presumed the 300*l.* would be paid to the shippers, and not to the Insurance Company.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received September 24.)

Sir,

Admiralty, September 23, 1891.

WITH reference to your letter of the 19th instant, forwarding a despatch from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Tangier,* respecting the rumoured appearance of a large squadron off Cape Juby, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will inform the Secretary of State that they are not aware of any British ships-of-war having been in the neighbourhood this year.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 24, 1891.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you copy of a letter from Sir Joseph Lee,† stating that the station of the North-West African Company at Cape Juby has been attacked, and that the Staff of the Company are in danger.

The inclosed telegram has been received from Tangier‡ in reply to a telegraphic inquiry addressed to him on receipt of the Company's letter.

Lord Salisbury directs me to ask whether the Lords of the Admiralty can, without inconvenience, send a gun-boat to Cape Juby to ascertain the state of affairs.

His Lordship fears that the Commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean can scarcely spare a ship for the purpose, but their Lordships may perhaps consider whether one could be dispatched from this country, or call on its way elsewhere.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

Foreign Office to Sir J. Lee.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 24, 1891.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 21st instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that in reply to a telegraphic inquiry addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier, the latter has reported that nothing has been heard there concerning the attack upon the station at Cape Juby, and that the Minister for Foreign Affairs is convinced that any such attack must have been the work of local Arabs, without any connivance on the part of the Sultan.

Lord Salisbury is in communication with the Lords of the Admiralty as to the possibility of dispatching a gun-boat to Cape Juby, but his Lordship fears that there is no vessel at present available for the purpose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 48.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September 25, 1891.*
I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch No. 82 of the 14th instant respecting the presentation to the Sultan of Morocco of the elephant sent by Her Majesty. I have read with interest Captain Inglefield's account of his proceedings, and I note with special satisfaction the courteous assistance rendered by Kaïd Maclean to the Mission.

I approve your having taken advantage of the opportunity to press upon the Moorish Government the settlement of the more important questions pending with this country.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Head and Co.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, September 25, 1891.*
WITH reference to my letter of the 21st ultimo, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that he learns from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier that the sum claimed by the Spanish Government for the looting of the "San Francisco" has been paid into the Spanish Consulate at Tangier, and that the Spanish Minister is awaiting instructions from Madrid as to its distribution.

The Spanish Minister has stated to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires that on previous occasions of a similar character, notices have been published in the official Gazette inviting the individual claimants to produce proofs of the validity of their demands. He added that in the case of the cargo, he presumed the 300*l.* would be paid to the shippers, and not to the Insurance Company.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received September 26.)

(Confidential.)
Sir, *Admiralty, September 25, 1891.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 24th instant, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the decypher of a telegram, dated this day, from the Admiralty to the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

P.S.—I am to add that Her Majesty's ship "Thrush," leaving England towards the close of next week, will also be directed to call at Cape Juby on her way to the West Coast of Africa.

E. M.

Inclosure in No. 142.

Admiralty to Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, September 25, 1891.*
RUMOURED attack on Station at Cape Juby. Order "Goshawk" there as soon as possible protect lives and property British subjects, and to report, by telegram, from Canaries, returning Gibraltar directly services no longer required. Acknowledge receipt by telegraph.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received September 26.)

(Confidential.)
Sir, *Admiralty, September 26, 1891.*
WITH reference to my letter of yesterday, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the decypher of a telegram, dated this morning, from the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

Inclosure in No. 143.

Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *Gibraltar, September 26, 1891.*
RECEIVED telegram, 25th. "Goshawk" proceeds immediately Cape Juby.

Foreign Office to Sir J. Lee.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 26, 1891.*
WITH reference to my letter of the 24th instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's ship "Goshawk," now lying at Gibraltar, has been ordered by the Admiralty to proceed at once to Cape Juby for the protection of the lives and property of British subjects at that place; and that Her Majesty's ship "Thrush," which will leave England towards the close of next week, destined for the West Coast of Africa, will also be directed to call at Cape Juby on her way.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

Eastern Telegraph Company to Foreign Office.—(Received September 29.)

*Winchester House, 50, Old Broad Street, London,
September 25, 1891.*

Sir, I AM desired to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 17th instant,* inclosing copies of despatches from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier respecting the opposition encountered in erecting the land wire in connection with the Spanish cable between Tangier and Tarifa.

The papers were submitted to my Board of Directors at their meeting yesterday.

* Inclosing copies of Nos. 121 and 127.

and I am desired to thank you for same. My Directors hope with Mr. White, that the incident can now be regarded as closed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE DRAPER, Secretary.

No. 146.

Sir J. Lee to Foreign Office.—(Received October 2.)

Dear Sir,
Park Gate, Altrincham, October 1, 1891.
I BEG to acknowledge your letters of the 24th and 26th ultimo, and to thank you for them, as well as for the dispatch of Her Majesty's ship "Goshawk" to Cape Juby. The fact that a gun-boat has been ordered to the station to protect life and property of British subjects will have an excellent effect in Morocco, reassure our Staff at the station, and deter the Arabs from other outrages.
We hear from the station that the attack was planned by Ali Fall, a nephew of Dahman, the Sultan's Governor of Wadnoon, but we have no evidence to show that it was done at his instigation.

The Shore-house was entered at breakfast time; Ali Fall had been allowed to enter, and while the attention of the guard was withdrawn, Ali Fall rushed to the gates, opened them, and let in his friends. The armoury was broken into, and arms and ammunition secured, and an attempt made to murder the Staff. Meantime, the attention of the Castle Staff was aroused by signal, and they at once opened fire from the Castle guns, and the Arabs dispersed. I am afraid some of them were killed.
We have a telegram to say all is now quiet, and the Spaniards will do and die if necessary. We have made a demand upon the Azzargeans to punish the offenders, and restore the arms, &c.

The Chiefs of the principal tribes are in our pay; some shall get compensation if the deed was done by marauders, but if, as in the former case, by the orders from the Court of Morocco, they say it is no affair of theirs.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH C. LEE.

No. 147.

Messrs. Head and Co. to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 2.)

My Lord,
85, Gracechurch Street, October 1, 1891.
WE have to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, and we note with satisfaction the result which has been obtained.
If the bills (lading) sent you on the 6th January last are still in your possession, we shall feel obliged if you will kindly return them, in order that they may be presented in the proper quarter in support of the claim made by our friends in Gibraltar.

We have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY HEAD AND CO.

No. 148.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Head and Co.

Gentlemen,
Foreign Office, October 2, 1891.
IN reply to your letter of the 1st instant relative to the case of the "San Francisco," I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that the bills of lading which were inclosed in your letter of the 6th January are already in the hands of Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 149.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received October 2.)

(Confidential.)
Sir,

Admiralty, October 2, 1891.
WITH reference to your letter of the 24th ultimo, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the decypher of a telegram, dated this day, from the Officer commanding Her Majesty's ship "Goshawk."

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

Inclosure in No. 149.

The Officer commanding H.M.S. "Goshawk" to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) Las Palmas, October 2, 1891.
ROBBERY, Juby 14th. All quiet since. No more apprehension.
Return Gibraltar, 2nd October.

Telegram sent to the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar, September 25, 1891 (to which the above is the reply).

Rumoured attack on station at Cape Juby. Order "Goshawk" there as soon as possible to protect lives and property British subjects, and to report by telegram from Canaries, returning Gibraltar directly services no longer required.

No. 150.

Foreign Office to Sir J. Lee.

Sir,
Foreign Office, October 2, 1891.
WITH reference to your letter of yesterday's date concerning affairs at Cape Juby, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that, in a telegram to the Admiralty, dated Las Palmas, the 2nd October, the Commander of the "Goshawk" reports all quiet since the robbery on the 14th ultimo, and no further apprehension.
The "Goshawk" is returning to Gibraltar.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 151.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 5.)

(No. 86. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Tangier, September 28, 1891.
WITH reference to my telegram No. 9 of the 20th ultimo, and to my despatch No. 70 of the same date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Gentile, the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, has just read to me a confidential despatch he has received from the Marquis di Rudini, acquainting him that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs had stated to the Marquis di Maffei that the French Ambassador had inquired of him what were the views of the Spanish Government as to the French pretensions to the Tuat Oasis, and that he had replied that the Spanish Government could not consent to the annexation of Tuat to Algeria, as by the Treaty of 1845 that district formed part of Morocco, and any alteration of the Moorish frontiers as laid down by that Treaty would affect Spain. The Moorish question was now one of European importance, and the *status quo* should not be disturbed by any Power without the previous consent of the other Powers interested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 5.)

(No. 87.)

My Lord,

Tangier, September 28, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 76 of the 5th instant, I have the honour to report that news has just reached me from Captain Inglefield and Kaïd Maclean, that the Sultan entered Mequinez on the 22nd instant.

His Majesty found it necessary to punish a portion of the Beni-M'tir tribe, and was thereby somewhat delayed.

It is anticipated that the Sultan will proceed to Fez, making but a short stay at Mequinez.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Mr. Egerton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 5.)

(No. 354.)

My Lord,

Paris, October 4, 1891.

WITH reference to my No. 336 of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to inclose herewith an extract from last night's "Temps," stating that the French auxiliary force organized in the oasis of El Goleah is to be reinforced, in view of the possible action of the Sultan of Morocco with regard to Tuat.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure in No. 153.

Extract from the "Temps" of October 4, 1891.

LA QUESTION DU TOUAT.—On sait que le Sultan de Maroc avait accueilli les invitations qu'il avait reçues de placer les oasis du Touat sous son autorité. A la suite d'Ambassades envoyées auprès du Sultan par les Touatiens, Moulay-Hassan avait dépêché quelques-uns de ses officiers pour préparer peu à peu une occupation définitive. Il s'agissait, tout d'abord, comme nous l'avons dit, de consolider les liens de suprématie religieuse du Sultan, puis de poser les bases d'une organisation administrative.

Mais le Gouvernement Français ne pouvait tolérer l'occupation du Touat par une autorité Marocaine quelconque: c'eût été non seulement laisser fermer l'accès éventuel de l'Algérie vers le Soudan Occidental, mais aussi amener la constitution, sur notre frontière du Sud-Algérien, d'un état de choses contraire à la sécurité de nos établissements. Aussi des représentations très énergiques furent-elles faites auprès du Sultan, qui protesta alors de ses intentions de ne pas susciter de conflit avec nous. Mais déjà Mouley-Hassan avait envoyé au Touat un personnel administratif. A la suite de la mission de Mohamed-ben-Abdennebi, qui parcourut les différentes oasis du Gourara, du Touat, et du Tidikelt, le Sultan de Maroc fit préparer l'installation d'un bordj à Timmimoum, la principale oasis du Gourara. Ce bordj était destiné à recevoir Aomar, le Représentant du Maroc au Touat, qui, à la fin du mois d'Août, était en route pour gagner son poste.

Comme ces événements sont la conséquence d'ordres données par Mouley-Hassan antérieurement à la réponse qu'il a faite aux notifications du Gouvernement Français, il est à espérer que des instructions contraires seront données par le Sultan de Maroc à ses Agents sur la frontière Algérienne. En tout cas, le corps de Méharistes que nous avons organisé à El Goleah va être sensiblement renforcé pour être prêt à toute éventualité.

Mr. Egerton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 8.)

(No. 356.)

My Lord,

Paris, October 7, 1891.

I INCLOSE from last night's "Temps" a statement that troubles have arisen in In-Salah, the main town of the Touareg Oases. The party favourable to Morocco appears to have killed the head of the party favourable to France; but at Touat itself, according to French reports, there is no such anti-French agitation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure in No. 154.

Extract from the "Temps" of October 7, 1891.

Marseille, le 6 Octobre, 1891.

UNE correspondance privée arrivée ce matin du Maroc dit que la situation serait troublée dans le Touat.

Une grande réunion aurait eu lieu, le 8 Septembre, à In-Salah. Elle aurait été organisée par des Chefs des oasis pour la réception des Envoyés Marocains, à la suite de la protestation des Chefs indépendants. Le nommé Ben-Memmer-Sya, désigné comme le Chef du parti Français, a été pris à partie. On lui a reproché d'avoir reçu des cadeaux du Général Commandant à Oran et d'avoir, sans mandat réel, appelé des Français pour se faire nommer Caïd. Il a été obligé de quitter la réunion et a été assassiné, près du marché, par des fanatiques qui ont tué aussi une trentaine d'indigènes.

Un autre Arabe, Rouba-Mackrsan, qui avait quitté la réunion avec Sya, s'est sauvé et a gagné Monydir. On croit qu'il s'est dirigé sur Alger dans l'intention de placer son oasis et ses biens sous la protection de la France. Les indigènes gardent les routes d'Algérie afin d'empêcher le passage des amis de la France qui nous feraient parvenir des renseignements sur la situation.

Mais tous les renseignements parvenus à la Légation de France disent que les oasis du Touat ne veulent pas suivre le mouvement provoqué à In-Salah et sont décidées à repousser les prétentions des Marocains. Telles sont les dernières nouvelles du Sud apportées à Tanger par caravane.

Intelligence Division to Foreign Office.—(Received October 8.)

THE Director of Military Intelligence presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to inclose, for his information, a cutting from a French newspaper, "L'Armée Coloniale," of the 2nd instant, reporting the march of a French column from Ain-Sefra along the frontier of Morocco, in the direction of Figuig.

Intelligence Division, 18, Queen Anne's Gate,
October 7, 1891.

Inclosure in No. 155.

Extract from "L'Armée Coloniale" of October 2, 1891.

AFRIQUE FRANÇAISE.—DANS LE SUD ORANAIS.—Une colonne, fort de deux bataillons, l'un du 1^{er} régiment étranger, l'autre du 5^e bataillon d'infanterie légère, est formée à Ain-Sefra, d'où elle partira le 2 Octobre.

Elle a pour mission de parcourir la zone frontière du Maroc, afin de rappeler aux tribus remuantes de cette région que nous faisons bonne garde.

Cette colonne s'avancera jusqu'à une journée de marche de Figuig et reviendra à son point de départ en passant par l'oasis de Moghrar.

Mr. Egerton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 9.)

(No. 361.)
My Lord,

Paris, October 8, 1891.

WITH reference to my No. 356 of yesterday's date, transmitting news said to be from In-Salah and Tuat, which was published by the "Temps," usually a well-informed paper, having access to official sources, I observe that this news is disbelieved on the ground of the names of the natives given being unknown, and of the dates given being evidently incorrect. Possibly, therefore, it is only a mystification for the purpose of attracting public attention to the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Intelligence Division to Foreign Office.—(Received October 10.)

THE Director of Military Intelligence presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to inclose, for his information, a copy of a paragraph in "L'Avenir Militaire" of the 6th instant, relating to French manoeuvres on the frontier of Morocco. It is possible that the manoeuvres referred to may be the pretext for concentrating a considerable French force; but the Director of Military Intelligence has at present no information as to the number of troops taking part in the manoeuvres.

Intelligence Division, 18, Queen Anne's Gate,
London, October 9, 1891.

Extract from "L'Avenir Militaire" of October 6, 1891.

19^e CORPS.—On écrit d'Oran à la date du 1^{er} Octobre :—

"A cause des sourdes menées étrangères au Maroc et de l'état d'esprit inquiétant de quelques tribus du Sud Oranais, les manoeuvres d'automne auront pour théâtre la frontière Marocaine, de Tlemcen à Nemours. Les opérations commenceront le 4 courant. Le thème des manoeuvres comporte trois parties: lutte contre des envahisseurs franchissant les frontières, lutte contre troupes Européennes débarquées à l'embouchure du Kiss, à proximité de Nemours, lutte contre tribus rebelles venant du sud.

*" [Le Colonel du régiment étranger quittera demain Aïn-Sefra avec deux bataillons, lesquels parcourront les zones de la frontière du Maroc, plus au sud que les colonnes prenant part aux manoeuvres.

"Le détachement avancera à une journée de marche de Figuig et, en revenant, traversera l'oasis de Maghair, afin d'impressionner les tribus qui paraissent vouloir devenir hostiles.]"

Mr. Egerton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 12.)

(No. 364.)
My Lord,

Paris, October 11, 1891.

WITH reference to my No. 361 of the 8th instant, I feel somewhat ashamed of sending to your Lordship herewith another article from the "Temps," which is evidently bent in arousing interest in the French public in the question of Tuat.

In this article the dispatch of a force from Algeria to that oasis is advocated as by no means a difficult solution of the question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

* The attention of the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was drawn to this report in note from Director of Military Intelligence of the 7th instant.

Extract from the "Temps" of October 11, 1891.

ALGÉRIE: LA QUESTION DU TOUAT.—On nous écrit d'Alger, le 6 Octobre :—

"Les dernières nouvelles du Sud Algérien font pressentir une solution prochaine de la question du Touat, les événements qui s'y accomplissent ayant revêtu un caractère de gravité en raison des empiètements tentés sur cette région par le Sultan du Maroc.

"Il faut, pour le moment, envisager l'éventualité d'une politique plus active dans le Sahara et examiner quels seraient les voies et moyens à employer, si une action décisive s'imposait, afin de rétablir l'ordre dans la zone réservée à notre influence au sud de l'Algérie.

"Tout d'abord, quelle est la voie la plus praticable, la plus suivie, la mieux pourvue d'eau qui mette en communication le Sud Algérien et la région du Touat? Les renseignements recueillis tout récemment sur ces contrées, s'ajoutant à ce que l'on en savait déjà, permettent de déterminer d'une façon à peu près certaine la meilleure voie à suivre.

"Le point extrême occupé par la France dans le sud est El Goléa, situé sur le méridien d'Alger, à 880 kilom. de la côte; ce poste militaire constitue une base d'opérations solide et bien pourvue d'eau. En arrière de ce poste avancé et lui servant d'appui se trouve le M'zab, la région la plus commerçante et la plus riche de tout le Sud Algérien; c'est un vaste comptoir auquel aboutissent toutes les productions du sud et d'où partent toutes les caravanes qui du territoire Français vont ravitailler le Gourara et l'Oued-Messaoura d'une part, le Tidikelt et In-Salah d'autre part. Le courant commercial y est établi depuis des siècles; ce fait s'explique par l'activité des habitants et par l'existence de voies de communication faciles entre le M'zab et les groupes d'oasis du Sahara Central. Les M'zabites nous sont absolument dévoués et l'on a vu récemment leurs Notables offrir au Gouverneur leur entier concours dans l'œuvre de pénétration vers le sud. El Goléa est donc avantageusement placé pour servir de base d'opérations et de centre de ravitaillement.

"A partir d'El Goléa, la voie tout indiquée est celle de l'Oued M'éguiden, qui se dirige droit sur le Gourara et le Touat; c'est une immense plaine où l'eau potable se trouve partout en abondance entre 8 et 12 mètres de profondeur et où la nappe artésienne serait atteinte à environ 50 mètres de la surface du sol. Cette région contient de bons pâturages pour les chameaux, les chèvres, et les moutons; elle aboutit, sans obstacles naturels, à un pays très peuplé, couvert de villages et de palmiers et dont les habitants sont intelligents, peu fanatiques, laborieux et incapables d'opposer la moindre résistance. On serait ainsi amené aux portes du Touat par une voie présentant toutes les facilités désirables, sur une distance de moins de 350 kilom.

"Dans le Département d'Oran, Aïn-Sefra, à 465 kilom. de la côte, est notre poste le plus avancé vers le Touat. Il se trouve malheureusement séparé de l'Oued Messoura, qui conduit au Gourara, par une région montagneuse dont le manque d'eau, la stérilité, et les difficultés du terrain opposeraient de sérieux obstacles à la marche d'une colonne se dirigeant au sud. De plus, la direction Aïn-Sefra-Touat longe pendant des centaines de kilomètres la zone neutre qui s'étend entre les populations Algériennes et Marocaines proprement dites; toute cette zone est occupée par des tribus pillardes et belliqueuses contre lesquelles il serait nécessaire de faire des opérations militaires.

"Pour ces diverses raisons, le point de départ de notre action vers le sud semble devoir être El Goléa. D'ailleurs, le jour où nous occuperions le Gourara et le Touat par El Goléa, la vallée entière de l'Oued Massaoura serait de fait en notre pouvoir, ses deux extrémités se trouvant entre nos mains.

"Dans ces conditions, on doit prévoir qu'une action rapide sur le Touat ne présenterait pas de grandes difficultés d'exécution. Nous avons à El Goléa un corps franc, les Méharistes, qui a été organisé pour reconnaître le pays et servir, le cas échéant, d'avant-garde solide à toute expédition qu'il deviendrait nécessaire de diriger vers le point du Sahara où notre autorité serait méconnue.

"Le premier moyen d'action, le plus rapide, existe donc dès aujourd'hui. D'un jour à l'autre, le corps des Méharistes pourrait être mis en mouvement et accomplir sa mission. Sa présence dans la région troublee suffirait pour arrêter les empiètements de nos ambitieux voisins et amènerait facilement les populations à reconnaître le fait accompli, pendant qu'on organiserait à El Goléa et qu'on mettrait en route une colonne plus importante destinée à occuper le pays.

"Il est plus que probable, la situation politique des gens du Touat étant aujourd'hui mieux connue, que notre action ne se heurterait pas à une confédération de tribus;

elle ne trouverait devant elle qu'une série de petits groupes avec lesquels on pourrait successivement traiter. Seul, le groupe d'In-Salah, qui a bien des motifs de craindre la répression des Français, tenterait peut-être de nous résister; mais l'isolement où il se trouverait à notre approche le forcerait vite à demander 'l'aman' (le pardon)."

No. 159.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 13.)

(No. 89. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Tangier, October 5, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 86 of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of an article which appeared in the local daily paper, "Diario de Tanger," on the subject of French pretensions regarding Tuat.

In this article, it is stated that France regards Tuat as part of a neutral zone between Algeria and Morocco, that France may take no action there so long as the present state of affairs continues, but that if any attempt is made to diminish the preponderance of French influence in that district, or if the Sultan should take any step to assert authority there, France would interfere, and even proceed to an occupation of the oasis if necessary.

The "Diario de Tanger," though still published in Spanish, has lately passed into French hands, and is sometimes inspired by the French Legation. I have been reliably assured that the present article is a mere translation of a draft prepared in the French Legation.

There is some plausibility in the argument put forward, for by the Treaty of 1845 the frontier is delimited only so far as Teniet-el-Sessi, and Article IV stipulates that in the Sahara no territorial limits need be established, that the Arabs of Algeria and of Morocco can take their cattle there for pasturage, and that both Governments can exercise jurisdiction over their respective subjects there. The Treaty then proceeds to specify the various tribes and oases in the Sahara which belong to each country, but curiously enough makes no mention of the important group of oases at Tuat, thus leaving it to be inferred, according to the argument now put forward, that these districts are included in the part of the Sahara over which each Government is entitled to exercise sovereignty.

On the other hand, it will be difficult for the French Government to explain how it was that in the Map prepared in their War Office shortly after the Treaty of delimitation, out of which it may almost be said to have arisen, the oases in question, Tuat, Tidikelt, Insalah, are distinctly marked on the Moorish side of the frontier.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 159.

Extract from the "Diario de Tanger" of October 3, 1891.

(Translation.)

TUAT.—The French and Algerian newspapers are at present much alarmed at news lately communicated to them by an Algerian correspondent, which they consider of great gravity.

According to these papers, the Sultan of Morocco has sent a detachment of regular troops to the frontier to take possession of Tuat and Gourara, and to officially occupy these territories.

On this account various organs of the press are crying out, thinking that they would see Algeria's advance to the south cut off if they allowed Morocco to deprive it of a road which they consider necessary for the greater safety of that territory, and they ask that, if the report be true, the Agents, through whose stupidity and maladroitness such a disaster to French prestige and interests has been brought about, should be punished without hesitation.

We know positively that the report that has so alarmed our neighbours is inexact; we deny it most roundly and categorically.

No troops have gone to the frontier, Morocco has not seized Tuat, the Sultan has not thought of it, nor could the Moorish Government have done so even if it wished it and attempted it. France is there able to prevent it with ample means of action.

Contrary to the supposition or wish of some Shereefian functionaries, Tuat is considered by France as belonging to the neutral zone which separates Algeria from Morocco. Neither Tuat nor Gourara appear in the Treaty of 1845, therefore France can take advantage of it, and it does tacitly take advantage of it, as a guarantee for its possessions and for the tranquillity of the inhabitants. France has had no need to discuss rights or to claim privileges, as no cause has been given for it. Peace and calm reign there; the inhabitants are quiet, and there has never been any indication of danger or deterioration of French interests.

France has attempted no conquest nor intended any, having no motive to do so, but if things should change at any moment—if, for example, those Moors should agitate, should wish to disturb the good order, or if French interests should be for one moment threatened, if any one should think himself entitled to modify the actual state of affairs, and should in any way attempt to diminish the preponderance of France, lessen her rights, injure her interests, or threaten her possessions—then, indeed, it will be different.

Under such circumstances, France might take serious and efficacious action to consolidate her rights and command the respect of the neighbouring tribes—she would even go so far as conquest, if necessary. We do not say that this is likely to take place this very day, but it is possible it might take place within three months, as also within two or three years; in the end, however, it may take place, and it depends entirely on the circumstances.

It is only the conduct of the tribes and the prudence of the Shereefian Court that can prevent it.

No. 160.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 17.)

(No. 84.)
My Lord,

Madrid, October 14, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith translation of an article which appeared in the "Imparcial" of the 11th instant, containing an interesting account of Tuat, in the south of Morocco, which place is at present occupying particular attention owing to the report of French designs with regard to this district.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

Inclosure in No. 160.

Extract from the "Imparcial" of October 11, 1891.

(Translation.)

FRENCH PROCEEDINGS IN MOROCCO.—As the French still continue to advance towards the south of Morocco, with a view to the possession of the oasis situated in the southern portion of the Empire, it is very necessary to draw the attention of the public to these districts, with a view, if possible, to prevent such an invasion on the part of the French.

The southern oases of Morocco, which from time immemorial have always been subject to the religious and political authority of the Sultan, are the following, viz. :—

Figuig, situated 50 kilom. from the Algerian frontier, with a population of 15,000 inhabitants, covering an area of from 14 to 16 kilom. (8 to 10 miles), and containing many excellent springs. It produces a large quantity of dates, highly esteemed among those of the Sahara, and also a considerable amount of corn. The houses are noted for their cleanliness, and the inhabitants for their fine physique and courage. From the year 1866 and upwards Figuig has been often visited by the French, and of late by a squadron of Algerian cavalry.

Gurrara is situated much more to the south, about 30°, and almost in the same line of meridian as Oran. The various oases of this district border on a large salt lake of nearly 100 kilom. (60 miles) in extent. These oases are covered with palm trees. The chief town, Timinum, is a most important commercial centre. The inhabitants of Gurrara belong to the famous tribe of the "Zenetas," and are of a very warlike disposition.

Tuat, bounded on the north by Gurrara, consists of a narrow plain, situated to

the east of the River Saura. Tuat, in the Berber language, signifies the oasis, and is thickly covered with palm trees. It also produces wheat, barley, vegetables, excellent fruit (especially pomegranates and grapes), cotton, opium, tobacco, &c. The inhabitants belong to the Berber tribe, and are much addicted to commerce.

Tidikelt, to the south of the above, is situated about the same level as the Grand Canaries. Its principal town is In-Salah, which, in Moorish, signifies the spring of peace. The country is very fine and fertile, and of considerable commercial importance.

Thus France, once in possession of these oases, will obtain an easy road of advance to the Senegal, and from there to the Atlantic. Morocco will then be hemmed in on the south, the keys of Fez in the hands of the invader, and the Canary Islands threatened.

As far back as in 1857 the inhabitants of Tuat, in fear of the French, sent a numerous deputation to the Sultan to assure him of their faithful allegiance, at the same time presenting His Shereefian Majesty with an offering of 25,000 pesetas (1,000*l.*).

The article then proceeds to quote the following extract taken from one lately published in the "Journal des Débats" with reference to the French claim to these districts:—

"Owing to the proximity of Gurrara to Tuat, it is very much to be feared that the Sultan intends to take possession of this district, a claim to which we cannot admit without prejudice to our projects of African colonization. Events have only justified our fears. Muley Hassan has sent various delegates to these oases to prepare for their definitive occupation. The Imperial Delegate, Mohamed-Abdenebi, has visited Tuat, Gurrara, and Tidikelt. By order of His Imperial Majesty, preparation has been made for the reception of Aomar, the Imperial Representative in Tuat, who is now on his way to take up his residence there. If we do not prevent it, the red flag will very soon be floating over all the "Kasbas" of these oases. It is necessary that our diplomacy should oppose such an intrusion. Tuat is well known as a commercial centre of great importance. Besides, it is quite clear that it forms part of the sphere of influence belonging to French Algeria."

The article (which is signed G. Reparaz) concludes by stating that the Spanish Government is bound to support the Sultan against any such aggression on the part of the French, but that it much fears whether any serious action will be taken owing to the proverbial weakness always shown by the Government under such circumstances.

No. 161.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 19.)

(No. 86. Confidential.)
My Lord,

Madrid, October 15, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to return herewith the Map and inclosures, as marked in the margin,* relative to the surveys and itineraries recently completed by the Spanish Military Mission in Morocco, which were forwarded to this Embassy in original in your Lordship's despatch No. 69, Confidential, of the 3rd August last.†

So far, I have not been able to obtain the copies of the Surveys and Reports desired by the Director of the Military Intelligence Department, but should a fitting occasion present itself for doing so, I shall not fail to carry out his wish.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 162.

Intelligence Division to Foreign Office.—(Received October 19.)

THE Director of Military Intelligence presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to inclose, for his perusal, some notes from the French press on the suggested occupation by French troops of the Touat district.

18, Queen Anne's Gate, London, October 17, 1891.

* Map of Morocco; Military Intelligence Department, July 29, 1891.

† Not printed.

Inclosure in No. 162.

Memorandum.

D.M.I.,

THE "Avenir Militaire" of the 13th October contains a short article headed "Algérie," referring to the Touat question, which concludes with an account of the situation, derived, it is said, from a private correspondent.

The account in question refers to the meeting at In-Salah on the 8th September of a number of Chiefs of the oasis, and the hostile feeling expressed toward France. This meeting has been reported in most of the newspapers. The "Avenir Militaire" continues:—"In presence of these events, it is under consideration to occupy the Oasis of In-Salah this winter. With that object a column of 1,000 men would be organized: one battalion of the 1st Tirailleurs, a squadron of Chasseurs d'Afrique, a squadron of Spahis, a section of artillery, a section of military artizans, hospital bearers, and a detachment of transport. This column would be placed under the command of General Faure-Biguet, commanding the Subdivision of Dellys.

"From another source we learn that the military authorities in Algeria have determined to send towards Ain-Sefra and Figuig, and then towards Tidikelt (i.e., In-Salah), two columns, with the object of preventing the population in these districts from aiding the Moorish schemes."

In connection with this subject an article in "Le Temps" of the 15th October, headed "Le Touat," contains a suggestion for the occupation by three columns of Igli, In-Salah, and Gurara. The first column to start apparently from Ain-Sefra, and the two latter from El Golea.

The suggested composition of the column to occupy Igli is not given, but the other two columns would consist of 300 men, each mounted on camels.

The approximate distances between the various points named measured on the Map are as follows:—

Ain-Sefra to Igli, 225 miles.

El Golea to Gurara, 190 miles.

El Golea to In-Salah, 260 miles.

A line of rail runs to Ain-Sefra.

El Golea is a French advanced post in the desert, and is distant from Ain-Sefra 250 miles, or from Biskra, to which a railway also runs, 355 miles.

It would appear from the Map that it would be simplest to advance on Gurara and In-Salah direct from Ain-Sefra without passing through El Golea, but, according to an article in "Le Temps" of the 11th instant, a mountainous and waterless region intervenes between Ain-Sefra and Gurara, and, moreover, the route lies through a dangerous and disturbed district.

If therefore an advance is made by the French on the Touat district, it will probably be made from El Golea.

(Signed)

C. R. SIMPSON, D.A.A.G.

October 16, 1891.

The "Journal des Débats" of the 16th October mentions a column of troops in readiness at Laghouat, 462 kilom. (about 290 miles) from El Golea. Perhaps this is the column of which the composition is given by the "Avenir Militaire" (*vide ante*).

C. R. S.

October 17, 1891.

No. 163.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received October 21.)

Sir,

Admiralty, October 19, 1891.

WITH reference to your letter of the 24th ultimo, I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a letter from the Commanding Officer of Her Majesty's ship "Goshawk," dated the 7th instant, reporting his proceedings from Gibraltar to Cape Juby and back, and I am to point out that the state of affairs as reported by Lieutenant Chapman does not bear out the alarmist report of

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Sir Joseph Lee of the 21st September, which led to Her Majesty's ship "Goshawk" being sent to Cape Juby.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

Inclosure in No. 163.

Lieutenant-Commander Chapman to Captain Buckle.

Sir, "Goshawk," at Gibraltar, October 7, 1891.
I HAVE the honour to report that, in pursuance of your sailing orders, dated the 25th September, I left Gibraltar at 8:50 A.M. on the 26th, and, experiencing north-easterly winds, arrived at Cape Juby on the 30th idem.

2. As soon as possible I landed and interviewed Mr. Bates, the local Manager of the North-West Africa Company, and inspected the Company's fort, which I found in an efficient state of defence.

It is garrisoned by 3 Englishmen (1 a doctor) and 17 Spaniards (boatmen and labourers); total, 20.

Its armament consists of two 7-pr. R.M.L. guns, three smooth-bores (about 9-prs.), one mitrailleuse, a large quantity of revolvers, rifles, bayonets, cutlasses, &c., with an ample supply of ammunition.

It is quite impregnable to any attack other than artillery.

3. The trading house, which is under cover of the fort's guns, has during the last two years been raised to double its former height. Ingress can only be obtained by one gate, and it is considered secure from any outside attack other than artillery. The only fear is treachery when trading.

Communication with the fort is practicable in any weather at low water.

The following persons live in the house, viz., Mr. Bates (Manager), 2 interpreters (Syrians), and 7 Spanish labourers; total, 10.

4. There is an ample supply of provisions, but water is brought weekly in the Company's trading vessel from Grand Canary.

The vessel was originally a Plymouth pilot-boat. She is of 42 tons burthen, and well found in every respect.

5. As regards the rumoured attack, &c., I learnt that, on the 14th September, when Mr. Bates and one of the interpreters were at breakfast, eight Arabs entered the house (the key having been left in the door). Half of them came up-stairs, shouting and firing their guns, and alarmed Mr. Bates and his companion. The remaining Arabs meanwhile possessed themselves of such arms and ammunition as they could find in the house, viz., five rifles, two revolvers, 800 rounds of ammunition, also such articles of clothing as they could find, and a box containing the interpreter's clothing and other effects. The removal of these articles must have taken a certain amount of time, but I failed to discover that Mr. Bates and his party had in any way molested the Arabs when carrying off the plunder. In view of the numbers in the house, this would not appear to have been a very dangerous course to pursue. I may observe that Mr. Bates himself had two revolvers and a Deringer pistol.

The intention of the Arabs is stated to have been murder; but as there seems to have been nothing to prevent their killing Mr. Bates and the interpreter, I can scarcely think murder was their object. Moreover, the doctor of the fort was out shooting at the time, and was in no way interfered with.

6. Everything has been quiet since the 14th September, and appears to have been so for some time previous to that date, and no trouble of any kind was apprehended.

7. There appearing no reason for detaining the ship, and Mr. Bates stating that he had no need of assistance, I left Cape Juby at noon for Las Palmas, where I arrived at 8 A.M. on the 1st October.

I at once telegraphed to the Admiralty as follows:—

(Paraphrase.) "Robbery, July 14th; all quiet since; nothing apprehended. Returning Gibraltar to-morrow."

And having coaled ship, sailed the following morning for Gibraltar.

8. I experienced light head-winds with a heavy swell on the passage, arriving at Gibraltar 9 A.M. to-day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. P. CHAPMAN.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 22.)

(No. 90. Confidential.)

Tangier, October 14, 1891.

My Lord,

ON the 18th ultimo I received from Cid Bubecker a letter, of which I have the honour to inclose herewith a translation. Even the better informed Moors are strangely ignorant of what is passing in the outer world, and this letter shows the curiously garbled accounts of passing events that reach the Sultan and his Ministers.

It was evident from this letter that there were good grounds for my suspicion that the French, and probably others, jealous of English influence in this country, would endeavour to persuade the Sultan that the Power to which Morocco had heretofore looked for counsel and moral support had bartered away portions of His Majesty's dominions to France. I therefore deemed it expedient to repeat to the Vizir Gharneet the language I had already held to Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres, reported in my telegram No. 9 of the 20th August, and approved by your Lordship.

Herewith I have the honour to transmit translation of the letter I addressed to Cid Emfadl Gharneet, in which, as your Lordship will observe, I informed him that our policy regarding Morocco was unchanged, and that we were still desirous that the integrity of His Majesty's dominions should be maintained. I was careful, however, not to say anything that could lead the Sultan to expect any support beyond what he has received in past times that could, in fact, be construed into a promise of material support.

In the reply which I have just received from Cid Emfadl Gharneet, of which I transmit translation, his Excellency expresses the thanks of the Sultan for my letter, and observes that some years since His Majesty had been informed that Great Britain had entered into an arrangement with France, which included the abandonment of Morocco to that country, but that His Majesty had refused to believe it, and had wished to send a special Envoy to England, in order to remove that impression from the minds of the people. The Vizir adds that the Sultan desires to address a letter to the Queen, informing Her Majesty of the purport of my letter, and thanking Her Majesty for the friendly assurances therein contained.

The fact of the Sultan now attaching such importance to friendly assurances, which are a mere repetition of those contained in many letters addressed to the Court by Sir J. Drummond Hay and by the late Sir W. Kirby Green, shows clearly that His Majesty has been led to believe that Her Majesty's Government has made certain concessions to France regarding this country, and His Majesty's object in wishing to address a letter of thanks to the Queen is evidently to test the accuracy of my assurance that no such concession has been made.

I beg to submit herewith, for your Lordship's approval, draft of the reply I propose to address to the Vizir, in which I embody the substance of my former letter, in order that there can be no misunderstanding as to its purport. I venture to suggest that it is desirable to allow the Sultan to address to the Queen the proposed letter, for otherwise His Majesty would be confirmed in his belief that Her Majesty's Government has conceded Tuat and other portions of Morocco to France.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 164.

Cid Bubecker-el-Ghanjawi to Mr. White.

(Translation.)

Confidential Memorandum to Her Majesty's Consul, for communication to his Excellency Sir Euan-Smith, as to information received from certain foreign Representatives (or a foreign Representative) at the Shereefian Court when they were consulted by the Government in the matter of the French demand for the cession of Tuat.

THE French "Khalifa" (Secretary, Dragoman, &c.) spoke with the Sultan in strong terms, by permission of his Government, as to the cession of Tuat and other demands, as I have already reported to you. The Sultan objected, and said that the country was his, and that he could not surrender it. Then the Sultan wrote to Tangier for the purpose of consulting some of the foreign Representatives, and some (or one) of them told the Sultan, "See what you can do with the French in an amicable (*lit.*, approved) way on the

matter, for the English Government rendered you services formerly, and impeded those who wished to annex your country; but eight months ago they seized the country of Zanzibar, and the Government of Zanzibar entered under the shadow of Great Britain, and when the German Government made representations to the British Government, because the German Government was itself desirous of annexing Zanzibar, and there was discussion between these two Governments, they settled (the matter) among themselves, and the British Government ceded to Germany part of the land of Zanzibar, and they (the Germans) then assented to that on the part of England. The French Government thereupon demanded of the British Government that they should give them a piece of land, as they had given to Germany a portion of the territory of Zanzibar. Then there was also discussion between these two Governments, and the English Government answered them that the French Government had already taken possession of a large portion of the land of Africa, and the Magrar-el-Awwel and the Magrar Ettani, and also Wadi Arab-el-Wassita, within the frontiers of Morocco, and that four years ago they took Genan Borzig, near Figuig, and this is Moorish territory, a distance of three days inwards, and that they took the district of Aïn Sefra, near Tafilelt, and that they occupied Aïn Shair, and four months ago they took the country of Oolad Faris, near Tuat, and assumed their frontiers, and that no representation had been made on the subject. And when the French pressed this matter, they abandoned to England the Zanzibar country, and the English, with the German Government, abandoned to France the Saharan districts about Tuat and Tafilelt."

This is what some Representatives (or some one of the Representatives) told the Sultan. One of the Secretaries told me this secretly between him and me, and I have informed you of it confidentially. When the Sultan heard this, viz., that the English Government had assented to this on the part of France, he was much excited and greatly concerned, but sometimes he is not convinced of it, and perhaps he has written to you for the purpose of informing your Government. Having heard this, I inform you, lest I be guilty of neglect.

Peace.

(Signed)

BUBEKER-BEN-EL-HADJ.

4th Safer, 1309 (September 9, 1891).

Inclosure 2 in No. 164.

(Translation.)

Mr. White to Cid Emfadl Gharneet.

(Secret.)

(After compliments.)

13th Safer, 1309 (September 18, 1891).

WITH reference to the confidential communication made to me some little time since by Cid Hadj Mahommed Torres regarding the demand put forward by M. Hélonis on behalf of the French Government for the district of Tuat, I wish to repeat to your Excellency what I then informed Cid Hadj Mahommed Torres, viz., that in the Map published by the French Government in the year 1848, i.e., shortly after the Treaty between Morocco and France, in which the line of frontier between Algeria and Morocco is laid down, Tuat is marked as being within the dominions of the Sultan. I also stated that it was possible that M. Hélonis might try to make the Sultan believe that the English Government had consented that France should take Tuat, but that I could assure him most positively that that was not the case, and that our Government had in no way conceded any rights whatever regarding Tuat or any other portion of Moorish territory to the French Government.

I have thought it advisable to repeat this to your Excellency as it has been reported to me, that some persons have informed the Sultan that the British Government have authorized the French to take Tuat, and I wish His Shereefian Majesty to clearly understand that there is no foundation whatever for that statement; the British Government, whose friendship for the Sultan and whose desire for the maintenance of the integrity of His Majesty's dominions is as sincere now as it has been for so many generations past, has not given its consent to the French taking possession of any portion whatever of Moorish territory.

Peace.

(Signed)

HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 164.

Cid Emfadl Gharneet to Mr. White.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

22nd Safer, 1309 (September 27, 1891).

I HAVE received your letter saying that the Naib Cid-el-Hadj Mahommed Torres wrote to you recently confidentially regarding the demand put forward by the French Dragoman Hélonis, by permission of his Government, for the cession of Tuat to them, and that you thought it right to let me know what you had before stated to the said Naib, that on the Map published by the French Government in 1848, shortly after the conclusion of the Treaty with Morocco, in which the frontier between Algeria and Morocco was drawn, Tuat is marked as belonging to the dominions of our Lord (may God give him the victory), and that you told him also that the said Hélonis might possibly endeavour to convince His Majesty that your Government had consented that France should take Tuat. You state that this is not the case, and that your Government have conceded to France no rights whatever on Tuat or on any portion of Moorish territory; and you state also that some persons had informed the Sultan that your Government had ceded Tuat to France, and that this is without foundation, because your Government perseveres in its friendship towards His Imperial Majesty, and its desire for the entire integrity of His Majesty's dominions, as it existed in the time of the forefathers, and was handed down from father to son, and does not consent to the appropriation of any part whatever of Moorish territory.

I have communicated your letter to the Sultan, and His Majesty is cognizant of all you say therein, and has commanded me to answer you that His Majesty had heard during the life-time of Cid Mahommed Bargash (may God be merciful unto him), that your Government had come to an Agreement with the French Government on certain matters, which included the abandonment of this country to France. His Majesty was greatly surprised at this, and repudiated the suggestion, and was not shaken in his belief in the friendship and good-will of your Government towards his country, and its desire to avert from the latter what is harmful. His Majesty at the time that he learnt this desired to send an Ambassador from His Majesty to your Government to renew the friendship and amity, and controvert the rumours in the above sense which had become current, but the Minister would not consent to the dispatch of the Envoy, and gave some excuses. Then His Majesty encharged his Envoy to Germany to negotiate with your Ambassador at Berlin the dispatch of an Envoy to your Government, and your Ambassador answered him that when the affair of the man killed belonging to Company which is at Juby should be settled, the Envoy would be accepted. His Majesty settled it immediately, and intended to send the Envoy through the Minister Green, and death overtook the latter. His Majesty's object in sending him is to remove false impressions from the minds of the people. Otherwise, the friendship and amity between the two countries is firm and proved without sending an Ambassador, and nothing can shake it. His Majesty has commanded me to thank you for your information to the above effect, and to ask your counsel as to whether it would be advisable if His Majesty wrote a letter sealed with the Shereefian seal to your Queen, informing Her Majesty that you had told him what is above stated, and to thank her and your Government for it, and sent you the letter to be transmitted by you to Her Majesty or not. Hasten your reply to me on this subject, that I may inform the Sultan.

Peace.

MUHD. EMFADL GHARNEET.

Inclosure 4 in No. 164.

Draft of a Letter from Mr. White to Cid Emfadl Gharneet.

(After compliments.)

I HAVE received your letter of the 22nd Safer in reply to that I addressed your Excellency on the 18th September (13th Safer), informing you that there was no truth in the report which I understood had reached the Sultan, to the effect that Her Majesty's Government had entered into an arrangement with the French Government, by virtue of which the Oasis of Tuat was conceded to France, and assuring you that our Government was still animated with the same desire which it had always manifested for the welfare of the Sultan and his people, and for the maintenance of the integrity of His Majesty's dominions.

You state that His Majesty has directed you to thank me for this communication,

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and to acquaint me that some years ago he was informed that England had abandoned Morocco to France, but that His Majesty had refused to believe it, and had wished to send an Envoy to our Government in order to dispel that impression from the minds of the people, and to renew the ties of friendship between the two Governments. Her Majesty's Government had, however, suggested that the Embassy be deferred until certain questions had been terminated; that when the late Minister, Sir W. K. Green, was at the Court, and the Cape Juby question had been settled, it was intended to renew the proposition of sending an Envoy, but the death of the Minister supervened before anything could be arranged.

You inquire, in conclusion, whether I am of opinion that the Sultan should address a letter to the Queen, acquainting Her Majesty with the substance of my letter, and thanking Her Majesty for the friendly assurances therein contained.

In reply, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that when, a few years since, it was suggested to dispatch a Moorish Embassy to England to give assurances of the friendly sentiments towards the Queen and her Government that animated the Sultan, it was felt by our Government that these assurances could be better received when proof of their sincerity had been given by the settlement of the many important matters that had been so long neglected.

With regard to the letter His Shereefian Majesty is desirous of addressing to the Queen, there is, I think, no objection to such a course, the friendly sentiments lately expressed to His Majesty, through the officer encharged with the presentation of the elephant sent by Her Majesty as a mark of her friendship, afford the Sultan a favourable opportunity for addressing to the Queen a letter of thanks.

Peace.

No. 165.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 8.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 23, 1891, 12.45 P.M.

I APPROVE the draft of your proposed letter to the Grand Vizier, submitted in your despatch No. 90 of the 14th instant.

No. 166.

Foreign Office to North-West Africa Company.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1891.

WITH reference to my letter of the 2nd instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you, for your information, the accompanying extract of a despatch from the Commanding Officer of Her Majesty's ship "Goshawk," reporting his visit to the North-West Africa Company's Station at Cape Juby.

It appears from this Report that the outrage, of which you received telegraphic information, was committed by a few marauding Arabs in search of plunder, that the officials of the Company were perfectly able to defend themselves from any probable attack, and that the state of affairs was at no time of such a character as to justify an application to Her Majesty's Government for the presence of one of Her Majesty's ships of war.

Lord Salisbury thinks it a matter of regret that the application should have been made, as the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty were induced, at his request, to send Her Majesty's ship "Goshawk" to the spot at considerable public inconvenience.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

• No. 163.

No. 167.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 27.)

(No. 92.)

My Lord,

Tangier, October 17, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 85 of the 18th ultimo, I have the honour to report that I have ascertained from the Spanish Minister that a notice has been published in the official Gazette of Madrid, to the effect that claims arising out of the looting of the "San Francisco" will be paid at the Spanish Consulate here on application of the parties with proper proof.

I have in my possession the bills of lading transmitted to your Lordship by Messrs. Head and Co., and will hand them to the person who may be sent to claim the money at the Spanish Consulate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 168.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 27.)

(No. 93.)

My Lord,

Tangier, October 17, 1891.

HER Majesty's Consul at Mogador having for some time past found it impossible to arrive at a settlement of various questions pending between British and French subjects, owing to the uncompromising attitude adopted by the French Consul, M. Hugonnet, I had made several representations on the subject to M. Souhart, the French Chargé d'Affaires, who, finding that M. Hugonnet disregarded the instructions sent him, told me about two months ago that he had written to Paris to request that M. Hugonnet might be removed.

Last week M. Souhart informed me that M. Hugonnet had received orders to proceed to the Canary Islands as Acting Consul, and that M. Pascal, one of the Secretaries of the Legation, would act as Consul at Mogador until other arrangements had been made, M. Leriche, Elève-Drogman of the Legation, accompanying him as Chancellor and Interpreter. M. Souhart added that M. Pascal would be instructed to maintain cordial relations with Mr. Payton, and he hoped that all questions would now be settled. M. Souhart, in conclusion, requested me not to mention that M. Hugonnet had been recalled from Mogador, as it was desired that it should be regarded merely as a change of posts.

In thanking M. Souhart for having obtained the removal of an official who had shown such marked and unreasonable opposition to everybody and everything English, I told him that I was convinced that M. Pascal would find in Mr. Payton a colleague ready to arrange all questions in a friendly spirit, and I offered to provide him with a letter of introduction to Mr. Payton.

A good deal of comment has been excited here by the dispatch of M. Pascal to Mogador, more especially as he is accompanied by M. Leriche, whereas heretofore the French Consuls at Mogador have only had the services of the local native interpreters. Some of the foreign Representatives in speaking to me on the subject have expressed the belief that M. Hugonnet's Anglophobia is a mere excuse for his removal, and that the real object of M. Pascal's presence at Mogador with M. Leriche is to better carry on the intrigues and correspondence with the Soos Chiefs of the Ben Hisham family. I, however, am not inclined to attach such importance to the change that has been made, and am disposed to think that the reason assigned by M. Souhart for sending M. Pascal to Mogador is the real one.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 27.)

(No. 94.)

My Lord,

Tangier, October 17, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 82 of the 14th ultimo, I have the honour to report that Captain Inglefield returned to Tangier direct from Mequinez on the 9th instant, and proceeded to Gibraltar the same day.

Captain Inglefield reported to me that he had experienced great difficulty in leaving the Shereefian Court, his departure having been delayed from day to day on various pretexts, and that even then he had been unable to obtain the Shereefian letters regarding the matters I had asked him to bring to the notice of the Sultan, but that he was assured that letters in the sense desired would be sent after him by express courier.

The letters in question reached me a few days later, but I have delayed reporting to your Lordship until I should have delivered them [*sic*] and ascertained their purport.

The Shereefian letters I had requested Captain Inglefield to obtain were:—

1. For the immediate commencement of the construction of the signal station at Cape Spartel, in accordance with the plans sent by me.
2. For permission for the Eastern Telegraph Company to erect a cable hut on the beach at the junction of the cable and overhead wire.
3. For the grant of a building lease of a certain site in Tangier to the Government of Gibraltar for a new British post-office.
4. For provision for the better protection of couriers conveying British mails between the coast towns, robberies having recently been frequent.

I regret to have to report that the Shereefian letters received by me are all practically useless, except perhaps those regarding the couriers, in which the various Governors are ordered to furnish, when required, an escort for the couriers, no provision, however, being made for the remuneration of the escort. If it is intended that the escort be paid by the post-office the cost will be prohibitive.

With regard to the cable hut, the Vizier has replied that the permission cannot be given, as the hut would be situated in the Anjera district, and that tribe would probably object to and endeavour to prevent its erection, thus giving rise to disagreeable questions.

The Shereefian letters regarding the signal station appear to indicate a wish on the part of the Sultan to raise difficulties, and to reduce the concession obtained to the smallest possible proportions. I propose, however, to address your Lordship a separate despatch on this subject.

The results obtained regarding the site of the British post-office are just as unsatisfactory, the Shereefian letter being a mere repetition of a former letter, which was returned as useless. The Vizier affects to believe that it is desired to purchase the property in question, whereas I clearly explained that it was only a building base that was desired. I have now addressed a further letter to Cid Emfadi Gharnet on the subject, for it is hard to understand what reason the Sultan can have for not giving effect to the grant he made verbally to the late Sir William Kirby Green when His Majesty was in Tangier two years ago, but which he has ever since sought to evade, although similar grants have in many instances been made to private individuals.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

The Earl of Lytton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 28.)

(No. 388.)

(Extract.)

Paris, October 27, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of M. Ribot's speech on the Estimates of his Ministry, in answer to questions by M. Deloncle respecting Egypt, Tuat, and Mekong, and the frontier of Tonquin, and by M. Delafosse respecting relations with Italy, more especially as related to the fêtes at Nice and the affairs of the pilgrims at Rome.

As for Tuat, the French Government had informed Morocco that it would allow no interference in territories which were in the French zone of influence—a question of police in the south of Algeria which concerns the Ministers of the Interior and of War.

Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of October 27, 1891.

M. Deloncle.—Ma deuxième question porte sur l'Ouest Africain; je prie M. le Ministre de bien vouloir nous donner l'assurance que tous les droits diplomatiques de la France dans l'Ouest Africain seront respectés.

Je ne parle pas plus particulièrement de l'affaire du Touat. La diplomatie Européenne n'a rien à voir à cette affaire: c'est une question de police Algérienne. Ni l'Espagne ni aucune autre Puissance n'y sont intéressées et ne doivent y être intéressées. Il s'agit, en l'espèce, de défendre purement et simplement les droits que tient la France du Traité de 1845 avec le Maroc, qui nous a donné liberté d'action au Touat; et ceci non point pour étendre notre Empire Colonial, mais simplement pour protéger l'arrière-pays du Sud Algérien.

Je suis autant que quiconque ici hostile aux expéditions militaires, et je crois que l'affaire du Touat ne comporte pas de conquête. Elle peut être réglée par des négociations avec les différents Chefs Musulmans qui tiennent les oasis Sahariennes. D'El Goleah ou d'Igli, nous pouvons nous faire respecter au Touat par des accords locaux et pacifiques, sans jeter des hommes et des millions dans le Désert; mais, en même temps, nous devons donner un grand effort à Tanger, auprès du Sultan du Maroc. La France est bien représentée en Egypte, elle y a aujourd'hui un Ministre habile et ferme, qui sait parler puissamment; qu'elle ait un Ministre énergique au Maroc; qu'elle reprenne au Maroc les traditions de sa vieille politique consciente de sa force, et soyez sûrs que le Maroc n'attentera plus ni au Touat ni aux autres oasis du Sud Algérien.

Car, avant toutes choses, au Maroc, comme ailleurs du reste, on ne respecte que celui qui se fait respecter, et nous sommes en état d'être respectés de tout le monde. (Très bien! très bien!)

M. le Ministre.—Je réponds maintenant, aussi brièvement et aussi clairement, je l'espère, aux questions qui m'ont été posées par mon honorable collègue et ami M. Deloncle.

M. Deloncle se préoccupe avec raison de ce qui se passe au sud de nos possessions Algériennes; il me demande si le Gouvernement veille à maintenir les droits qui nous appartiennent incontestablement et qui résultent pour nous, non seulement de la situation géographique de ces oasis dont il vous a parlé, mais aussi de l'arrangement international qui porte la date du 5 Août, 1890.

M. Deloncle peut se rassurer: le Gouvernement Français n'oublie pas qu'il a là des intérêts qu'il ne peut pas abandonner.

Depuis quelques années, Messieurs, le Maroc semble vouloir renouer dans ces oasis des relations qui, si elles ont jamais existé avec un caractère plus ou moins régulier, ont été interrompues pendant plus de cinquante ans et qui, en tout cas, n'existaient plus certainement au moment où a été conclu le Traité de 1845, qui a délimité les possessions Algériennes et l'Empire du Maroc.

La Chambre sait—et il n'est pas inutile de le rappeler en ce moment—que le Traité de 1845 a laissé en dehors de ces stipulations toutes ces oasis situées à une très grande distance du Maroc, sur lesquelles il n'exerçait aucune autorité et sur lesquelles, à ce moment, il n'a élevé aucune prétention.

Si, dans ces derniers temps, le Maroc a cru pouvoir envoyer des émissaires pour nouer des relations dans ces oasis, pour y faire réclamer son intervention, je puis dire à M. Deloncle que le Gouvernement Français n'a pas hésité à signifier au Maroc, de la façon la plus claire et la plus catégorique, qu'il ne tolérât de sa part aucun acte de souveraineté sur ces territoires, qui rentrent dans la zone naturelle de l'influence Française. (Très bien! très bien.)

Messieurs, cette question n'est pas une question Européenne ni même une question Marocaine; comme l'a dit excellemment M. Deloncle, c'est une question de police au sud de notre Algérie. (Très bien! très bien.)

Et par conséquent ce n'est pas le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères qui aura à entamer des négociations pour la résoudre, mais M. le Ministre de la Guerre et M. le Ministre de l'Intérieur, qui viendront demander à la Chambre, quand le moment sera venu, et peut-être bientôt (Ah! ah! à la Gauche), les crédits nécessaires pour renforcer notre action, nous mettre à l'abri de toute surprise et de toute atteinte. (Très bien! très bien!)

The Earl of Lytton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 28.)

(No. 389.)

My Lord,

Paris, October 27, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 364 of the 11th instant, I have the honour to inclose herewith the note communicated to the newspapers by the Committee of French Africa, respecting Tuat, as published in to-day's "Journal des Débats," accompanied by a Map.*

As regards this question, the following is an exact translation of M. Ribot's language in yesterday's debate in answer to a question put by M. Deloncle respecting Tuat:—

"M. Deloncle is justly preoccupied with what is passing to the south of our Algerian possessions; he asks me if the Government is vigilantly maintaining the rights which incontestably belong to us, not only from the geographical situation of the oases of which he has spoken, but also from the international arrangement bearing the date of the 5th August, 1890.

"M. Deloncle can be reassured: the French Government does not forget that it has interests there which it cannot abandon.

"For some years past Morocco seems to wish to renew, in those oases, relations, which, if they have ever existed, with a character more or less regular, have been interrupted for more than fifty years, and which, in any case, did not certainly exist at the time of the conclusion of the Treaty of 1845, which delimited the possessions of Algeria and the Empire of Morocco.

"If Morocco has lately thought itself justified in sending emissaries for the purpose of making friends in these oases so as to get its intervention asked for, I can tell M. Deloncle that the French Government has not hesitated to signify to Morocco, in the clearest and most categorical manner, that it will not tolerate on its part any act of sovereignty in those territories which are included in the natural zone of French influence.

"The question is not a European question, nor even one which concerns Morocco; it is a police question on the south of our Algeria.

"Consequently, it is not the Minister for Foreign Affairs on whom it is incumbent to commence negotiations for its solution, but the Minister for War, and the Minister of the Interior who will ask the Chamber, when the proper time arrives, perhaps it may be soon, for the credits necessary to strengthen our action, and to guarantee us from surprise or injury."

I have, &c.

(For the Ambassador),

(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure in No. 171.

Extract from the "Débats" of October 27, 1891.

LA QUESTION DU TOUAT.—Le Comité de l'Afrique Française s'est occupé, dans sa séance du 15 Octobre, de la question du Touat; après une discussion approfondie, le Comité a décidé d'envoyer aux journaux la note suivante et la Carte ci-jointe, qui en est le complément nécessaire.

On ne peut tolérer davantage la situation créée au Touat.

Situé à l'est du prolongement de la frontière Oranaise, le Touat se trouve complètement isolé du Maroc; il est une dépendance naturelle de l'Algérie, avec laquelle il entretient des relations régulières; le Maroc l'a reconnu, et fidèle au Traité de 1845, qui avait excisé le Touat de son territoire, il s'en est désintéressé longtemps. Depuis quelques années, néanmoins, à la suite de l'agitation et de l'inquiétude qu'avaient répandues dans les oases Sahariennes le massacre de l'expédition Flatters et l'assassinat du Lieutenant Palat et de Camille Douls, quand un des deux grands partis qui divisent ces oases se fut tourné vers lui, le Sultan Mouley Hassan parut renoncer à cette attitude loyale: plusieurs Missions furent envoyées au Gourara, au Tidikelt, au Touat, nouant des intrigues avec nos adversaires, avec Bou-Amema surtout, qui réside dans le voisinage; au commencement de cette année, l'agitation redoubla: nos amis furent bannis, assassinés même, à In-Salah; les caravanes d'El-Goleah furent pillées, et un fonctionnaire Impérial, appuyé de quelque

* Not printed.

quatre-vingts fusils, à convoqué pour ces jours-ci, pour la fin d'Octobre, tous les Notables des ksour, à l'effet de discuter l'envoi du Sultan d'une députation chargée de demander l'annexion du Touat au Maroc.

Il n'est que temps de trancher cette question, qui traîne depuis tant d'années; si nous tardons un seul moment, elle le sera contre nous et en violation de nos droits les plus certains.

Abandonner le Touat, c'est abandonner toute notre œuvre de pénétration Saharienne, car, entre un territoire Marocain d'In-Salah et le territoire Turc de Ghadamès, il ne nous resterait qu'un étroit couloir d'accès vers les pays Touareg, défilé menacé sur ses deux flancs et, par suite, inaccessible. Mais il y a plus; la sûreté même de l'Algérie commande la marche sur In-Salah. Depuis quelques mois, une sourde agitation règne dans le Sud Oranais, et la renaissance Islamique y fait son œuvre; entre les Beraber du Sud Marocain et les Touareg s'ébauche, sous l'égide d'une double influence religieuse, celle des Senoussiya et celle des Derkaoua, une Confédération dont le Touat, entre des mains ennemies, deviendrait la place d'armes; déjà c'est par centaines que l'on compte les défections de nos nomades. Toute marque de faiblesse aggraverait infailliblement le mouvement qui se dessine. Au point où en sont les choses, l'abandon du Touat, refuge de nos dissidents, peut devenir le signal d'une explosion, et obliger la France, à brève échéance, à des mesures autrement onéreuses qu'une intervention dans ces oases, soit pour réprimer, soit pour prévenir des menées insurrectionnelles et peut-être la guerre sainte.

Et cette intervention ne saurait entraîner de complications internationales. L'Espagne, seule Puissance légitimement intéressée dans les affaires du Maroc, a spontanément reconnu le caractère exclusivement Algérien de la question du Touat. L'Angleterre en a consacré le rattachement à la zone d'influence de l'Algérie par un Traité formel, et, ni en Italie, ni en Allemagne, ce Traité n'a soulevé d'objections. L'opinion y est, d'ailleurs, familiarisée depuis longtemps avec l'éventualité de son application, par les déclarations de M. Gerhard Rohlfs, qui ont trouvé leur écho dans les organes autorisés de la presse Allemande.

Il ne s'agit naturellement ni d'une expédition lointaine, ni d'une annexion. Si la route par Igli devrait entraîner violation de la frontière Marocaine, celle d'El-Goleah permet, au contraire, de laisser à l'entreprise son caractère de simple mission de police politique, à laquelle suffiraient amplement 500 Méharistes pris parmi les tirailleurs Algériens. Cette création constitue la seule mesure militaire à prendre et elle nous permettrait non certes de prolonger jusque par-delà le Touat la conquête et le régime administratif de l'Algérie, ce à quoi personne ne songe, mais de grouper les éléments d'action politique dont nous disposons déjà, d'affermir notre influence dans les oasis du sud et de donner par des démonstrations énergiques un appui moral à nos partisans encore en majorité.

Il appartient à l'opinion, éclairée sur la situation au Touat, sur les nécessités de tout genre qui exigent une prompt intervention, de se prononcer. Toutes les mesures peuvent être prises du jour au lendemain. Il suffit de vouloir. De nouveaux attermoissements auront pour conséquence inévitable la perte définitive du Touat: ce n'est qu'une question de semaines, de jours. Et ce sera l'insurrection en permanence dans le sud, la guerre sainte à l'heure d'une guerre Européenne, l'anéantissement de l'œuvre de pénétration Saharienne, un échec humiliant pour l'honneur national.

No. 172.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No 6.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 28, 1891, 5.30 P.M.

THE Italian Government are urgently pressing me to inform them as to the course which Her Majesty's Government intend to pursue in respect of the Oasis of Tuat. I have stated to the Italian Ambassador that Great Britain is less interested in North-West Africa than are Spain and Italy, that Her Majesty's Government are disposed to give diplomatic support to the views which those two Powers may put forward, but that instructions to Her Majesty's Representatives cannot be given until we know precisely the nature of the action those Powers proposed to take.

The Italian Government have rejoined that they consider Great Britain and Spain to be the most nearly interested Powers.

Thus by common consent, it is deemed important to know the course which Spain proposes to adopt. Endeavour to ascertain this.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Head and Co.

Foreign Office, October 28, 1891.

Gentlemen,

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 2nd instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier reports that he has ascertained from the Spanish Minister at that city that a Notice has been published in the official Gazette of Madrid to the effect that claims arising out of the looting of the "San Francisco" will be paid at the Spanish Consulate at Tangier on application from the parties concerned, accompanied by proper proofs.

Mr. White adds that he will hand the bills of lading which are in his possession to any duly authorized person who may be sent to the Spanish Consulate for the purpose of claiming the amount of compensation due to your clients.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 174.

North-West African Company to Foreign Office.—(Received October 30.)

132, Cheapside, London, October 29, 1891.

Sir,

I BEG to acknowledge your letter of the 24th instant, also the extract from the Report made by the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Goshawk," with regard to the outrage at Cape Juby on the 14th September last.

The Directors regret that you should think the dispatch of the gun-boat unnecessary, and that the request made by them was not warranted by the circumstances of the case. The Directors assure you that the fact of a British gun-boat having appeared on the coast has had a most salutary effect on Spaniards and Moors alike.

One of the Directors is now at Cape Juby investigating into the affair, and I am instructed to send you a copy of his Report, which we hope to receive early next month.

The attack was much more serious than Commander Chapman has reported to you.

I beg to inclose a translation of an article which appeared in "La Legalidad," which shows Spanish opinion. The Puerto Cansado referred to is inaccessible from the sea.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GEO. RAYNOR, *Secretary.*

Inclosure in No. 174.

Extract from "La Legalidad" (Lanzarote) of September 24, 1891.

(Translation.)

AFRICA AND THE CANARIES.—We have often treated of a subject of capital interest in view of the security which the Canary Islands ought to enjoy, and up till now we have been unable to awaken in the Government, in the authorities, and in the press a just notion of the vast importance of the subject. Our contention has been that we ought to occupy the coast of Africa abutting on the Canaries, together with the rich fishing ground pertaining thereto. Now, more than ever, for the sake of forming a bond between these islands and the Continent, is it necessary to occupy militarily certain points of Africa adjacent to the Spanish province.

It is more than well known that during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries various points of the African continent were under our domination, especially all the coast between Capes Nun and Bojador. Until the end of the sixteenth century the Canaryites made frequent incursions into this littoral, and even built a tower in what is to-day called Puerto Cansado, which is the famous Mar-Pequena of former times. The Crown of Castile had, however, rights to even more territory than this, not only on account of these Canary expeditions and the possession of the above-mentioned tower, but by the fact that the title of the Governor of the Canaries was also that of Captain-General of the coasts of Africa from Cape Gher to Cape Bojador (1493). Therefore the coast under the sway was at least 136 leagues between capes. Without proceeding to push our claim to such an extensive territory, we will limit ourselves to the part which abuts on the Island of Fuerteventura. If we trace a straight line from Cape Nun southwards until it meets a

parallel drawn from Bojador, we shall have a territory of 119,000 square kilom., with 260 miles of coast-line. That is to us a territory more than twice the size of the Canaries.

This part of Africa is not all sand. There is much arable land in the interior, and many places with a plentiful supply of water, such as Saqui-el-Hamra, and also other fertile wooded spots. It is not all Sahara. The Arabs live from their flocks, and there are many pasturages in their lands.

We have seen that we planted our compatriots on this coast, and the principal Arab Chiefs, such as those of the district Atit-bu-Amram, rendered homage to the Crown of Castile.

The part to-day occupied by the English factory of Cape Juby also belonged to us. This is the ancient port of San Bartolomew. The ruins of our old tower, Santa Cruz, still exists in Puerto Cansado. This important strategical point was not forgotten at the termination of the war with Morocco, because, in the VIIIth Article of the Treaty of Peace of 1860, the Emperor undertook to cede to us, or, rather, to return to us, the territory which there belonged to us of yore.

We have abandoned this territory for very inadequate reasons, chiefly the neglect of our authorities, who have unmoved seen a foreign nation plant subjects two steps off from the Canaries. And the end of this sort of thing will be, that other nations will occupy the coast, and scoop in the fruits of the rich fisheries which we have been working in the past ages.

Not long ago a cry was got up for occupation. Troops even came for the purpose. But the whole matter ended with a promise that the occupation would be effected shortly. The fact is, that if we do not exercise our rights, other nations will not hesitate to follow the example of the English, who are now dominant at Tarfaya, 18 leagues from Fuerteventura.

The Emperor of Morocco is very friendly with us just now. We ought to take advantage of this friendship to complete our hold of this coast, which is worth more than all our possessions in the north of Morocco together, and it would be a revenue, while these other possessions only produce expenses. But let us remember that the Sultan has always been reluctant to consent to open the port south of Mogador.

It is clearly against the Sultan's interest to let us occupy Mar-Parqueña. He ought to eject the English Colony from Cape Juby, and let the great littoral which extends to Cape Bojador remain without European occupation.

We cannot, however, persuade the Government to take possession of what is their own. By a lamentable error they made the famous port of the beach of Ifni, which is dangerous in the extreme, and almost useless because there is no port; therefore, nobody ever goes there. This was what was bound to happen as long as we stuck to the territory by the Treaty of Tetuan, in a place where nobody could go, except at the greatest risk.

What we want is the Cape Mar-Pequena. We want it, and we ask it, because it is the only safe port of all this coast at a few hours' sail from the Canaries. We want Mar-Pequena, whether the Sultan likes it or not, and we demand that the Government shall give it us before the French or Germans, or some other nations shall take it.

A disaster has recently occurred at Cape Juby. We do not know the details, but it appears that the Moors attacked one of the buildings of the English factory, and stole all they could lay their hands on.

The English know already that the Emperor is a good payer, and therefore these events will not occasion them much sorrow. There are times in which it pays better to allow one's self to be robbed than to go on dealing in wool.

No. 175.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 30.)

(No. 10.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Madrid, October 30, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that I saw the Minister of State this afternoon, and that he informed me that, in his opinion, the advice which had been offered a short time ago to the Moorish Government by certain of the foreign Representatives at Tangier ought to be followed. It was to the effect that the Government of the Sultan should address a note to the French Minister, requesting him to give, in writing, a statement of the grounds on which is based the claim of the French Government, that the Oasis of Tuat belongs to them.

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In answer to the reply which would thus be elicited from the French Representative, the Moorish Government would then be in a position to bring forward their arguments to prove their right to the ownership of the territory in dispute. If a friendly understanding could not be arrived at in regard to this matter, then the Government of the Sultan would submit the case to those Powers who had an interest in maintaining the *status quo* in Morocco.

No. 176.

Messrs. Head and Co. to Foreign Office.—(Received October 31.)

Sir, 85, Gracechurch Street, London, October 29, 1891.
WE have to acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of your letter of yesterday, and we are requesting our Gibraltar friends to take the proper steps to obtain the payment of the amount due to them.

We are, &c.
(Signed) HENRY HEAD AND CO.

No. 177.

Foreign Office to General Post Office.

Sir, Foreign Office, October 31, 1891.
I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acquaint you that a despatch has been received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier relative to the site which the Government of Gibraltar desire to acquire in that city for a new British post-office, and as to the better protection of couriers conveying British mails between the coast towns of Morocco.

With regard to the latter subject, Mr. White reports that the Moorish Government have given orders to the various Governors of the districts concerned to furnish an escort for the couriers when required to do so. As no provision, however, has been made for the remuneration of the escort, Mr. White fears that the cost will be prohibitive, if, as it appears, the Shereefian Government intend that it shall be defrayed by the British Post Office.

Mr. White states that the result of his negotiations regarding the site of the British post-office at Tangier is at present unsatisfactory, as the Moorish Government affect to believe that it is desired to purchase the property in question. He has, however, addressed a further letter to the Vizier upon the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 178.

Foreign Office to Eastern Telegraph Company.

Sir, Foreign Office, October 31, 1891.
I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier reports that the Moorish Government have declined to grant the permission which he had requested in favour of your Company for the building of a cable hut on the beach at the point where the cable and the overhead wire meet.

The ground alleged for the refusal is that the Anjera tribe, in whose district the hut would be situated, would probably endeavour to prevent its erection.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 179.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 2.)

(No. 91.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 30, 1891.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date on the subject of Tuat, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have invited the Duke of Tetuan, the Spanish Minister of State, to give me his views respecting it.

In the meantime, I inclose herein, for your Lordship's information, a translation of an article which appeared this morning in the columns of the Spanish newspaper "El Liberal," which contains some interesting remarks on the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

Inclosure in No. 179.

Extract from "El Liberal" of October 30, 1891.

(Translation.)

THE QUESTION OF TUAT.—According to an unofficial note of the French Government, the expedition to Tuat, of which so much has been said these last few days, will not be carried into effect without the approval of the Chambers. The Ministry postpones it till the discussion of the Colonial Estimates. It postpones it, but does not abandon it.

Some of the French press, the minority, disapprove of the expedition for fear of offending Spain and Morocco, but the greater part declares itself in favour of the conquest.

They know that the soil is very fertile, and that there are more than 343 villages in Tuat; that its inhabitants are very industrious, but the importance of its possession for France consists in its geographical position.

Tuat forms, with the adjoining territory of Gourara, as it were, a bridge across the desert, uniting the French Colonies on the coast, the Soudan with the vast regions of the Senegal, of the Tchad, and of the Upper Nile. Further, the possession of the Tuat assures the development of Algeria, by reducing the tribes of Sahara, the most inveterate enemies of French authority.

But to whom does Tuat belong? In the fourteenth century it was annexed to Morocco, but as this Empire is scarcely master of the territory it occupies, Tuat recovered its independence several times.

In 1845, after the battle of Isly, a Treaty was arranged between France and Morocco.

In virtue of the IVth Article of this Treaty, Figuig was conceded to Morocco, and the village of Ain Sefra to France.

The delimitations were not defined.

When Morocco is in question, to speak of boundaries is to speak of a *casus belli*. Besides, in the aforesaid Article the following is laid down;—

"With regard to the country extending to the south of the said villages, the two Governments agree that, as it appears there is no water there, that it is uninhabitable, that it is properly speaking the desert, delimitation would be superfluous."

In all this time, forty-six years, France and Morocco had never needed to fight against the Tuaregs. But such was not the case with exploring expeditions.

In 1882 they destroyed the Flatters caravan; in 1886 they assassinated the officer Palat.

After the destruction of the Flatters caravan, the inhabitants of Tuat, foreseeing French reprisals, invoked the protection of Morocco, and in dealing with the French authorities they declared themselves Moorish subjects; after the assassination of Palat they sent a deputation to solicit the aid of the Sultan.

The French Government, through M. Ferrand, French Minister in Tangier, demanded explanations of the Sultan, who answered evasively.

The possession of Tuat by Morocco does not exist *de facto*. But on the other hand there is the acknowledgment of the sovereignty of the Sultan on the part of the inhabitants of Tuat, and what is of more moment, a recognition of this sovereignty on the side of France by the demand of explanations from the Sultan.

Moorish possession may be uncertain. But is it not, mayhap, uncertain, and very

uncertain, as French? The difference being that the inhabitants of Tuat declare themselves subjects of the Sultan, whilst they assassinate his representatives. Of the latter's authority as regards the recognition of his sovereignty no argument can be made. For neither has he authority or power over the Kabyles, who are always in insurrection, and, nevertheless, all Europe recognizes his sovereignty in Morocco.

The French do not discuss his rights, but the best way to get to Tuat. There are two: one starting from Ain Sefra, a railway station, which is a military promenade of fifteen days, and the other starting from El Goleah, which is a most difficult march across the desert. Why does the latter appear to be preferred? Let Cardinal Lavigerie with his campaign against slavery be asked, and much will be found to explain the expedition to Tuat.

But in any case has this matter, in which Morocco is mixed up, no interest for Spain? Are we never to show signs of life, activity, or opinion here with regard to the repartition of Africa by Europe?

In the same way the different Powers enforce and have enforced their arbitrament for preventing Spain extending her dominion in Morocco. Why should not the question of Tuat be submitted to arbitration? Cannot Spain, by whom a kind of Protectorate over Morocco is recognized by Europe, mediate in such a dispute in defence of this Empire?

All Europe is attacked by the colonizing fever. In taking possession of Africa all nations are at work except Spain. Might we know what are the views of our Government on this head?

No. 180.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received November 2.)

Sir,

Admiralty, October 31, 1891.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will state to the Marquis of Salisbury that, in a letter received from the commanding officer of Her Majesty's ship "Thrush," dated the 20th October, he reports:—

"On arriving off Juby I communicated with the Manager to the North-West African Company, who came off to the ship, and reported everything was very quiet in the neighbourhood. All particulars of the last raid had been supplied to Lieutenant and Commander Chapman, of Her Majesty's ship 'Goshawk.'"

I am, &c.

(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

No. 181.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 3.)

(No. 92. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 31, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I had an interview yesterday with the Duke of Tetuan, Spanish Minister of State, at which his Excellency discussed the question of Tuat, and expressed to me his views concerning it.

The Duke informed me that prior to the departure from Madrid of M. Cambon, the late French Ambassador at this Court, he had had a conversation with him with regard to the designs with which France was credited of effecting a rectification of the southern portion of the Algerian frontier.

The Duke had pointed out to M. Cambon the Map of Morocco which, in the year 1848, had been published in Paris, and which had been drawn up by Major Beaudouin, from which it appeared that "le pays de Tuat" did not lie within the limits of the Algerian frontier.

The Duke also alluded in his conversation with M. Cambon to the terms of the Treaty which was concluded on the 18th March, 1845, between France and Morocco, and particularly instanced Article 6 of that instrument in support of his opinion, that the oasis in question could not be considered as falling within the zone of territory which could be claimed by France.

The Duke then observed to M. Cambon that he had made him acquainted with his

personal appreciation of the question, and that in the event of the French Government being determined to annex the Oasis of Tuat to the possessions of France in Algeria, it would be for them to adduce proofs in support of their claim to the ownership of it.

Should such proof be forthcoming, said the Duke, then there is an end of the matter, and there would be nothing more to be said. But should it turn out that the Sultan of Morocco had reason to gainsay the assertions made to him in support of the French claim, then the aspect of the affair would be considerably altered, and would assume the proportions of an international question, which would demand the serious consideration of the Spanish Government.

M. Cambon does not appear to have made any rejoinder to the remarks made to him by the Duke of Tetuan.

Shortly after this interview had taken place, the Duke of Tetuan sent instructions to the Spanish Ambassador in London to mention the subject of Tuat to Her Majesty's Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in the absence of your Lordship from England.

I may mention in this place that I have been confidentially informed by my Italian colleague that in the month of August last the Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs residing in Tangier was advised by the Italian and Spanish Representatives in that place to address a note to the French Minister there, calling upon him to state the grounds on which the French Government based their pretension of ownership to the Oasis of Tuat.

The Moorish Commissioner, however, misunderstanding the advice given to him, addressed notes on the subject of Tuat to the Italian and Spanish Ministers at Tangier, and the latter had to point out to him the error, an error which the Commissioner does not appear to have rectified.

On my acquainting the Duke of Tetuan yesterday with the desire which was entertained by Her Majesty's Government to learn the views of that of Spain on the present state of affairs as regards the French pretension to the ownership of Tuat, his Excellency stated that he was still of opinion that the proper course for the Sultan of Morocco to pursue would be to invite the French Government to state in writing ("réclamer par écrit") the bases on which they found any right they consider they have to the possession of Tuat as being included within their Algerian frontier.

The Sultan would then take into consideration the answer he might receive, and, in the event of his disagreeing with its contents, he would seek to substantiate his own claims in a formal reply. Should this course be pursued, and unfortunately lead to no satisfactory result with regard to the matter in dispute, then the Duke of Tetuan is of opinion that the question might very properly be submitted by the Sultan to the consideration of those Powers who are immediately interested in the maintenance of the *status quo* in his Empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 182.

The Marquis of Salisbury to the Marquis of Dufferin.

(No. 199.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 3, 1891.

COUNT TORNIELLI pressed me to-day to know what view Her Majesty's Government took of the French claims upon the Oasis of Tuat, and what course they propose to follow. I replied that, as I had already had the honour of pointing out to him, the matter was one which appeared to me to concern Italy and Spain more closely than it did Great Britain, and that I did not propose to express any opinion, either at Tangier or at Paris, unless I was asked to do so by those who were immediately concerned. The opinion of Her Majesty's Government, however, was that Tuat was part of the Empire of Morocco, and that any forcible alienation of it by any other Power would prejudice the integrity of that Empire. If the Government of Spain should think it important to express this opinion, we were prepared diplomatically to support them.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 183.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 5.)

(No. 95.)

My Lord,

Tangier, October 29, 1891.

HEREWITH I have the honour to transmit an article from the "Réveil du Maroc" of yesterday's date, containing particulars regarding the recent entry of the tribes of Angad and Mehaia into Algerian territory, seeking refuge from the attacks of the Beni-Snassen.

The French Chargé d'Affaires informed me that this article gives an accurate account of what passed, and added that these tribes would be allowed to remain within the Algerian frontier for a short time, until they could return to Morocco in safety, but that they would not be permitted to establish themselves permanently in Algeria.

M. Souhart read to me a despatch he had received from M. Ribot at the end of last month before these tribes had crossed the frontier, informing him that the Angad had made a request to be allowed to settle in Algeria, but that, on the advice of M. Cambon, he had replied that it could not be permitted.

M. Souhart observed that it was difficult to maintain order on the frontier, but that every precaution was taken. Flying columns are constantly sent from the stations to the frontier tribes. This year manoeuvres would be held at Maghrar, which is well adapted for that purpose, being well supplied with water.

Proceeding of his own accord to the subject of Tuat, M. Souhart stated that the garrison of El Golea was to be considerably increased, and that it was not improbable that an expedition might be sent to the Tuat Oases in about a couple of months' time. France, he added, could not admit Morocco's interference in that region, and might find it necessary to effect an occupation. The Touaregs were in the habit of drawing their supplies from Tuat, and they could more easily be kept at a distance from the Algerian frontier if deprived of this source of supplies by it being in French hands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 184.

Intelligence Division to Foreign Office.—(Received November 6.)

THE Director of Military Intelligence presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and with reference to his note of the 7th October last, forwarding a cutting from the "Armée Coloniale" reporting the march of a French column from Aïn-Sefra in the direction of Figuig, he now forwards a copy of a notice in the "Avenir Militaire" of the 3rd instant, which contains details of the composition of the column and the itinerary followed.

*Intelligence Division, 18, Queen Anne's Gate,
London, November 5, 1891.*

Inclosure in No. 184.

Extract from the "Avenir Militaire" of November 3, 1891.

SUD-ORANAIS.—La colonne qui avait été concentrée à Aïn-Sefra le 1^{er} Octobre a terminé ses manoeuvres le 16.

Cette colonne, placée sous le commandement du Colonel Zeni, du 1^{er} Régiment Étranger, était ainsi composée: 5^e bataillon d'infanterie légère; 4^e bataillon du 1^{er} Régiment Étranger (une compagnie était montée sur des mulets); 1 escadron du 2^e Chasseurs d'Afrique; 1 peloton du 2^e Spahis; 2 sections d'artillerie de montagne; 1 détachement du Génie; 1 détachement du train; et 1 peloton de cavaliers du Goum. En tout 1,400 hommes, 500 chevaux et mulets, plus 400 chameaux composant le convoi.

L'itinéraire parcouru a été le suivant: Hacé-Slimann; Founassa; Djemen Bou-

Resgk (séjour); à partir de ce point la colonne entre dans une région peu connue: Meyelta-Dermel; Ez Zoubéa au pied du Djebel Kardacha (c'est le point occupé par la colonne qui est le plus rapproché de Figuig); Oglat-el-Hadj Mahomed; de là les troupes remontent vers le nord et s'arrêtent à Oglat-el-Djédida; Ez Zilek; Moghrar-Tohtani (séjour); Aïn-el-Hadaj; Tiout et Aïn-Sefra, où un engagement a eu lieu entre la colonne et les troupes de la garnison.

No. 185.

The Earl of Lytton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 7.)

(No. 402.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 6, 1891.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 388 of the 27th ultimo, reporting M. Ribot's language respecting Tuat, I observe that it is authoritatively stated in to-day's papers that the Ministers of War and Interior will shortly make demands on the Chamber for the credits necessary for increasing the French force at Goleah and for keeping order in the neighbourhood of that oasis.

I have, &c.

(For the Ambassador),

(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

No. 186.

Sir J. Pouncefote to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 9.)

(No. 212.)

My Lord,

Washington, October 22, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I communicated the correspondence which accompanied your Lordship's despatch No. 193 of the 14th August respecting the controversy between Mrs. Leared and Mr. Stalker in Morocco to the Acting Secretary of State, and I have now the honour to inclose copy of a note which I have received from him, in which he states that the United States' Consul at Tangier has reported that this case has been settled, as Mrs. Leared has built a wall which completely prevents any view of her premises from Mr. Stalker's window.

Mr. Wharton requests, at the same time, in view of the question of jurisdiction which has been raised, to be furnished with copies of the above-mentioned correspondence for consideration in any future case which may arise, and I have accordingly furnished him with copies of your Lordship's despatch No. 193 and of Sir E. Hertslet's Memorandum.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Inclosure in No. 186.

Mr. Wharton to Sir J. Pouncefote.

Washington, October 13, 1891.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to return herewith certain papers relating to a controversy between Mrs. Leared, a British subject, and Mr. Stalker, a British pensioner, but now United States' Vice-Consul at Tangier, which you were pleased to leave with me on the 26th ultimo.

Our Consul at Tangier reported to the Department some time ago that this particular case had, in effect, been disposed of, "Mrs. Leared having built a wall which completely prevents any view of her premises from Mr. Stalker's window."

As regards, however, the general question of jurisdiction which is raised, if you

will kindly furnish me with a copy of the papers, I will take that subject under consideration in any case which may arise in future.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. WHARTON.

No. 187.

The Earl of Lytton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 9.)

(No. 405.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 8, 1891.

IN addition to the credits which I reported in my No. 402 of the 6th instant are to be asked of the Chamber for the reinforcement of the El Goleah garrison, and for rendering more effective the surveillance over the neighbouring regions, the newspapers report that in the Council of Ministers yesterday, when the question of Tuat was discussed, the extension of the Ani Sepa Railway in the direction of Djena Bon Resk was also agreed to.

The force at El Goleah is to be increased to 500 men.

This will entail an extra expenditure of about 20,000*l*.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

No. 188.

General Post Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 10.)

Sir,

General Post Office, London, November 9, 1891.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st of last month respecting a despatch recently received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier relative to the site which the Government of Gibraltar desire to acquire in that city for a new British Post Office, and to the better protection of couriers conveying British mails between the coast towns of Morocco.

In reply, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to state, for the information of the Marquis of Salisbury, that, since a British Post Office Agency was established at Tangier in 1872, subordinate to the Post-office at Gibraltar, the latter office has been transferred, with its agencies, from Imperial to Colonial control.

In these circumstances, I am to suggest that a communication on the subject of the despatch above referred to should be addressed to the Colonial Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) S. A. BLACKWOOD.

No. 189.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1891.

WITH reference to my letter of the 5th instant,* I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit herewith, for Lord Knutsford's information, a copy of a letter from the Post Office,† from which it appears that the communication addressed to the Postmaster-General on the 31st ultimo relative to the site of the proposed new British post-office at Tangier should have been made to the Colonial Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

* Inclosing No. 177.

† No. 188.

No. 190.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 7.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, November 13, 1891, 8 P.M.

TUAT.

The Marquis de Casa Laiglesia, in the course of conversation to-day, informed me that the Spanish Government, in answer to an inquiry addressed to them by the Governments of England and Italy, had stated that they did not intend to take the initiative in moving in this matter, as such a step would be contrary to the views expressed by the Duke of Tetuan to the French Ambassador at Madrid in August last (see your despatch No. 92, Confidential, of the 31st October).

His Excellency was of opinion that it was not advisable to make representations at Paris, because the question, being of very small importance, could not justify active resistance. France, being well aware of this, would only be too glad of an opportunity of gaining a diplomatic success at the expense of the three Powers.

I explained to the Ambassador that I did not wish to offer any advice in the matter. If the Spanish Government were to make a representation on this subject to France, Her Majesty's Government were prepared, if the Spanish Government desired it, to take a similar step. But if my own opinion were asked, I agreed with his Excellency that such a step was not the most politic. Of course, the aspect of the question would be changed if the Sultan of Morocco spontaneously made an appeal to the Treaty Powers.

No. 190*.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 16.)

(No. 11.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, November 16, 1891.

MOORISH Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed Italian Chargé d'Affaires that a body of men has been sent by His Shereefian Majesty to Tuat to prevent the people of that district from engaging in expeditions outside their own borders and from encroaching on the territory of Algeria and to maintain order amongst them generally. The Sultan has determined, should their mission not meet with success, to send an army to Tuat, and if that again should prove insufficient, to proceed there in person with a large force.

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No. 191.

The Marquis of Salisbury to the Marquis of Dufferin.

(No. 210.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 17, 1891.

COUNT TORNIELLI came to me this afternoon and informed me of the communication which had been made by the Sultan of Morocco to the Consul-General of Italy at Tangier, and which corresponded very much with that mentioned in Mr. White's telegram No. 11 of the 16th instant. He then informed me that the Italian Government had not in any way encouraged the apparently warlike intentions of the Sultan, but had recommended him to keep as quiet as possible, and not to do anything which might give a serious character to the present controversy. I thanked him for his communication, and said I was very glad to recognize the wise and moderate views which had dictated the action of the Italian Government in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 192.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir E. Malet.

(No. 277. Secret.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 17, 1891.

COUNT HATZFELDT spoke to me at length with respect to the affairs of Morocco to-day, and made a statement to me which is sufficiently interesting to deserve record. He said that the French Chargé d'Affaires had informed Mr. White, our Acting Representative, of the intention of the French in a couple of months to advance so far as Tuat for the purpose of checking the raids into Algeria, which were organized at that oasis and which started from it.

But he also said that the French were going at the same time to occupy the Oasis of Ghadames, and that thereupon the English Representative had immediately informed the Italian Chargé d'Affaires of the communication, because Ghadames was included in Tripoli, and, therefore, the intention of the French to occupy it raised questions of a different order and of more importance than those which resulted from their intention with respect to Tuat. I have not been able to discover in Mr. White's Reports to this Office any trace of this latter communication, which has in some way or other been conveyed to the German Ambassador.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 193.

Anglo-Jewish Association and Jewish Board of Deputies to the Marquis of Salisbury.—
(Received November 18.)

My Lord,

36, Finsbury Circus, November 16, 1891.

WE have been requested by the Conjoint Foreign Committee of the Jewish Board of Deputies and the Anglo-Jewish Association to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying translation of a letter from Mr. I. de A. Elmaleh, a merchant of high standing at Mogador, relative to the recent murder of two Hebrews in the Province of Haha, in the vicinity of Mogador. Mr. Elmaleh, as will be seen, addressed himself, in the first instance, to the "Alliance Israélite Universelle" of Paris, which body forwarded a copy of his letter to this Committee, with a request that it would use its best endeavours to secure your Lordship's powerful and benevolent intervention.

The two brothers Abouhseira appear to have been murdered and mutilated in cold blood for the sake of plunder, under circumstances unusually sad, as one of the young men had only been married a few months. It would seem, from Mr. Elmaleh's letter, that the perpetrators of the murder had not been arrested when he wrote. The frequency of these outrages in a country only three hours from Europe, and the comparative impunity which criminals appear to enjoy, must destroy all sense of security, and thus retard the introduction of commercial and industrial enterprise, to which many look with hope as the harbinger of civilization and improvement.

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We beg, therefore, earnestly to ask that your Lordship will be pleased to direct the adoption of such steps as may lead to the arrest and severe punishment of the murderers of the brothers Abouhseira. We hope, moreover, that your Lordship will see fit to take this opportunity of impressing on the Government of His Majesty the Sultan how essential it is for the material progress of Morocco, as well in the interest of humanity, that effective measures be taken without further delay for the prevention and the punishment of crime and outrage within his dominions.

We have, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN GOLDSMID, *President of the Anglo-Jewish Association.*
ARTHUR COHEN, *President of the Jewish Board of Deputies.*

Inclosure in No. 193.

Mr. Elmaleh to the "Alliance Israélite," Paris.

Sir,
Mogador, October 2, 1891.
IT is with great regret that I have to inform you of the assassination of two coreligionists, two brothers, established at Mogador, and of whom the elder, aged 26, has only been married a few months. They disappeared last week in the Province of Haha, in the suburbs of Mogador, a dependency under the rule of Caïd Mahomed Oumbarek. Their beasts of burden have been found abandoned, but their goods and the money which they were carrying have disappeared. Robbery, therefore, was the motive of this double crime. The amount of the theft is estimated at 6,250 fr.

The elder brother's name is Selam Abouhseira; the younger is Makhlouf Abouhseira.

I beg you, Sir, as quickly as possible, to do all you can to follow up this sad affair. The number of crimes such as this is increasing, and no reparation can be obtained. The disastrous result of this impunity is beginning to be felt, and it is to be feared that still greater misfortune will fall on our poor coreligionists. This is why pressing application ought to be made to the Legations of Tangier to take the matter seriously in hand, and to follow it up with the firm idea of demanding an exemplary punishment, and so to put an end to these numerous murders. The situation is a very critical one, and deserves to attract towards it the attention of the "Alliance." We count very much on your influence, and await some happy result.

Mogador, October 6, 1891.
I beg to confirm my letter of the 2nd instant with regard to the assassination of the brothers Abouhseira. We have succeeded in recovering their bodies in the district of Iblaach, where this crime was committed, where people said they had disappeared. Thanks to the co-operation of the Caïds of the two neighbouring provinces, Intonga and Ida Oubmougia, where the corpses might have been thrown by the Arabs of Iblaach to divert suspicion, they have come across the remains of the two unfortunate brothers, horribly mutilated. With great trouble and danger some Israelites, accompanied by an armed band furnished by the two Caïds in question, were able to take up the bodies and carry them to Mogador on Friday night. The Caïd who was responsible—Mahomed Oumbarek, feeling sure that the Israelites would not desecrate their Sabbath, was surprised by this act, or he would have opposed it by force. Happily, he was not aware of it until the people had already reached the gates of Mogador.

The excitement there was very great. The burial took place on the 2nd day of Rosch Haschana. We had a very sad holiday.

A legal inquiry was instituted here on the arrival of the corpses, also at Iblaach, when the victims were identified as the brothers Abouhseira.

There is no need of enlarging on the necessity for the most pressing demand for the exemplary punishment of the Arabs of Iblaach, a district situate in the Province of Haha, and under the control of Caïd Mahomed Oumbarek.

We await with the greatest impatience the result of your efforts.

(Signed) J. DE A. ELMALÉH.

No. 194.

The Earl of Lytton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 18.)

(No. 415.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 17, 1891.
I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a Report which I have received from Colonel Talbot on the subject of the increase of the garrisons of El-Goleah.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 194.

Colonel Talbot to the Earl of Lytton.

My Lord,

Paris, November 17, 1891.
I HAVE the honour to send herewith extracts from newspapers which have reference to the augmentation of the garrison of El-Goleah, and to the extension of the railway from Aïn-Sefra, the present terminus, and for which purposes votes of credit are to be submitted to the Chamber.

The extract from the "Figaro" of the 15th November points to something more than a mere strengthening of the garrison at El-Goleah, and this is confirmed in a conversation I had recently with an officer on the Staff in Paris, who volunteered the information that the Government had decided upon sending an expedition against Touat, but he would or could not give me further particulars.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. A. J. TALBOT, *Colonel, Military Attaché.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 194.

Extract from the "Débats" of November 15, 1891.

LES Ministres se sont réunis hier matin à l'Élysée, sous la présidence de M. Carnot.

M. de Freycinet a fait signer le Projet de Loi portant augmentation de la garnison d'El-Goléah. Cette garnison sera portée à 600 hommes ainsi répartis : une compagnie de Tirailleurs Indigènes montés sur méharis, 150 hommes ; une compagnie de Tirailleurs à Pied, 200 hommes ; une compagnie de la Légion Étrangère, 150 hommes ; un peloton de Spahis, 50 hommes ; une section d'artillerie, 25 hommes ; infirmiers et ouvriers, 25 hommes.

Le crédit nécessaire pour 1891-92, en y comprenant les dépenses de sûreté, est de 455,000 fr.

M. Yves Guyot a donné lecture de son projet relatif à la prolongation de la ligne d'Aïn-Sefra jusqu'à un point à fixer dans la direction de Djenn-Bou-Rezk. Aux termes de ce projet, l'État serait chargé des études à faire, et aurait la direction des travaux qui seraient exécutés avec le concours des troupes employées aux chemins de fer. Le crédit demandé, pour les études et les premiers travaux, s'élève à 300,000 fr.

Inclosure 3 in No. 194.

Extract from "Le Temps" of November 5, 1891.

LE TOUAT.—Le "Bulletin de l'Afrique Française" va publier un article sur le Touat qui donne les renseignements suivants sur les agissements des Marocains dans cette région :—

"Dans le courant de Mai, les Gouverneurs de Figuig et du Tafilelt dirigèrent chacun sur le Touat une vingtaine de cavaliers, sous le commandement de Caïds de

leur suite. Ces deux bandes entrèrent, vers la fin de Juin, au Gourara par Chérouin et, après avoir exigé de ce petit Ksar, qui avait fermé ses portes, une forte contribution, se rendirent à Deldoun, chez Bou-Amema. L'une partit presque aussitôt pour Timmi, grande oasis du Touat méridional, où les principaux personnages de la région avaient été convoqués. Mais les Chefs du Tidikelt vinrent seuls à cette conférence, et, au bout de quelques jours, les Marocains retournèrent à Deldoun. Pendant ce temps, le second groupe parcourait le Gourara, puis l'Aouguerout, où les Khenafsa, tribu Arabe inféodée aux Oulad-Sidi-Cheikh, ne l'accueillirent dans leurs ksour qu'après quelques hésitations.

"Sur leur route, les cavaliers de Figuig et du Tafilelt, bien que n'étant porteurs d'aucune lettre de Mouley-Hassan, avaient proclamé l'annexion du Touat au Maroc et réquisitionné des vivres, exigé de l'argent, des négresses, comme makhzen du Sultan. Ils s'attaquèrent même à nos partisans. On en massacra quelques-uns à In-Salah. Un des Chefs de l'Aouguerout, qui nous a donné des preuves d'une active fidélité, dut se retrancher dans sa maison avec ses serviteurs armés. Des caravanes d'El Goléah furent pillées.

"Pendant ce temps arrivaient successivement à Timmimoun, en Août, le Fekhi El Rachidi, Secrétaire d'un Vizir du Sultan, dont le 'Temps' du 30 Mai avait annoncé le départ; cinquante cavaliers de l'ancienne Garde Noire des Souverains Marocains, sous le commandement du Caïd Bou-Azza; puis le fils d'un Caïd de Fez, El Ferradji, pompeusement annoncé comme Bacha; et enfin un Chérif de la maison d'Ouezzan.

"Les cavaliers de Figuig et du Tafilelt ayant été renvoyés chez eux, leurs remplaçants, à l'effectif total de quatre-vingts fusils, se sont installés dans la kasbah de Timmimoun.

"D'après les dernières nouvelles, le Fekhi recherche des documents pouvant expliquer l'intervention du Maroc, par les souvenirs d'une conquête contemporaine de celle de Tombouctou. De son côté, le Pacha, auquel on avait tout d'abord attribué la mission de diviser le pays en quatre commandements, a convoqué les Notables de tous les ksour pour la fin d'Octobre. Dans cette réunion doit être discuté l'envoi au Sultan d'une députation représentant non plus quelques individualités sans mandat, mais tous les districts, et chargée de prononcer définitivement le rattachement du Touat au Maroc. En attendant, le Pacha prépare la construction de nouvelles kasbah dans les oasis frontières du Gourara, dont les habitants, notamment les clients des Oulad-Sidi-Cheikh, qui se sont jusqu'ici refusés à obéir, ont reçu l'ordre de fournir les poutres de palmier et les matériaux nécessaires.

"Les cavaliers de la Garde Noire mettent le pays en coupe réglée et continuent à donner la chasse à nos partisans.

"Enfin, le Chérif remplit une mission politique particulièrement importante. L'influence religieuse dominante au Touat est celle de la maison d'Ouezzan, dont le Chef, Sid-el-Hadj Abd-es-Salem, jouit au Maroc de la protection Française. Grâce à cette circonstance, un des deux grands partis locaux qui divisent le Touat, celui des Séfian, où cette influence règne exclusivement, est restée hostile à l'agitation dirigée contre nous. Mais Sid-el-Hadj Abd-es-Salem a pour rival le chef d'une branche cadette de la famille, El Hadj Abd-el-Djebar, familier de la Cour Marocaine. Ce personnage s'est associé aux intrigues dirigées contre nous, et c'est son neveu qui a accompagné les agents du Makhzen. Se faisant passer pour le fils du véritable Chérif, il met en œuvre l'ascendant dû à ce titre usurpé pour rallier le "çof" Séfian au parti Marocain.

"On voit que la campagne engagée au Touat contre notre influence se poursuit activement. Elle est menée avec une audace telle qu'en arrivant au Gourara les Marocains ont fait dire publiquement au Commandant du poste d'El Goléah qu'ils viendraient le chasser du Ksar. Son succès semblait, il y a un an, dans les prévisions possibles. Au point où en sont les choses, l'annexion du Touat au Maroc devient une probabilité.

"On ne peut tolérer davantage la situation créée au Touat depuis trois mois. Il est inadmissible que le Sultan du Maroc, traité par nous comme un Souverain Européen, poursuive librement la comédie humiliante de sa politique Orientale. A toutes les représentations amicales qui lui ont été faites, conformément à l'esprit du Traité de 1845, sur des agissements auxquels prenait part ouvertement son entourage, il a répondu par des dénégations sommaires. En dernier lieu, au mois d'Août, l'arrivée des cavaliers de Figuig et du Tafilelt, ayant provoqué une nouvelle communication diplomatique, plus énergique, il lui a dédaigneusement opposé des Cartes Allemandes. Cette attitude suffirait, à elle seule, pour justifier l'occupation immédiate du Touat. Il ne convient pas, à aucun titre, d'engager, vis-à-vis du Maroc même, une action représ-

sive. Mais il faut donner au Souverain du Maghreb, en réduisant désormais à leur juste limite les procédés de pure convenance, dont il n'a pas compris la nature réelle, en ne traitant plus la question du Touat que comme exclusivement Algérienne, une "leçon de choses."

"Dans l'ordre pratique, ces considérations de dignité nationale n'ont qu'une valeur secondaire. Mais nous ne pouvons pas admettre que l'Algérie se trouve barrée au sud par une frontière étrangère, un an après qu'un accord international a garanti sa zone d'influence. Ce serait compromettre tout l'avenir de la pénétration Saharienne, quelles qu'en doivent être la forme et la direction. Entre le territoire Marocain d'In-Salah et le territoire Turc de Ghadamès, il ne nous resterait plus qu'un étroit couloir d'accès vers le pays Touareg, défilé menacé sur ses deux flancs, et, par suite, inaccessible."

Ajoutons, d'après des renseignements récents, que des Touaregs ont pillé, il y a peu de temps, des caravanes, et enlevé des chameaux jusque dans le voisinage de Tougourt.

Inclosure 4 in No. 194.

Extract from the "Figaro" of November 15, 1891.

L'EXPÉDITION DU TOUAT.—M. de Freycinet a pris une résolution et il va demander aux Chambres un crédit de 455,000 fr. destiné "à augmenter les garnisons du Sud Algérien." C'est la garnison d'El Goléah qui sera augmentée et qui sera portée à 600 hommes.

Elle se composera de :

Une compagnie de Tirailleurs Indigènes montés sur des méharis, soit 150 hommes. 200 Tirailleurs Indigènes.

150 hommes de la Légion Étrangère.

Cinquante Spahis.

Une section d'artillerie.

Vingt-cinq ouvriers.

De son côté, le Ministre des Travaux Publics demande 300,000 fr. pour premiers frais de construction de 64 kilom. de chemin de fer à construire dans le Sud-Ouest Oranais au delà d'Aïn-Sefra, point terminus actuel.

Les propositions du Gouvernement n'ont rien que de très raisonnable et sont de nature à rallier tout le monde : on a l'air de ne pas vouloir faire d'expédition, on renforce une garnison, on ne dépense que 700,000 fr.; rien de mieux. Seulement, il y a un petit malheur : c'est que pendant qu'on dépose des Projets de Loi à Paris, on agit tout autrement en Afrique où l'on ne fait pas des préparatifs de colonne de police, mais des préparatifs d'expédition. On expédie tous les jours de Blidah des munitions et des vivres à destination de Laghouat; le 1^{er} Spahis, en garnison à Medeah, Djelja, Laghouat, va être concentré à Daghouat; deux escadrons de Chasseurs d'Afrique vont aller à Djelja et, de plus, ce qui paraît plus grave, on a expédié 2,000,000 de cartouches à Laghouat. Or, pour 600 hommes à 120 cartouches par homme, il faut 72,000 cartouches, plus 72,000 cartouches dans les fourgons de bataillon, ça fait 144,000 cartouches—et on en envoie 2,000,000; on est loin de compte.

Il faudrait que l'on sache à Paris ce que l'on veut faire en Algérie. Il me paraît cependant impossible que les Ministres intéressés n'en sachent pas autant que tout journaliste qui veut se donner la peine de faire sa petite enquête. Il y a un point sur lequel tout le monde est d'accord; c'est qu'il faut faire quelque chose. Il y en a un autre sur lequel tout le monde est d'accord, sauf les grosses légumes d'Afrique qui rêvent colonne, expédition au Touat—c'est qu'il ne faut pas faire d'expédition; faire tout au plus des promenades, mais sans tirer un coup de fusil. Il y a un troisième point sur lequel les "Africains," les vrais, qu'ils soient civils ou militaires, sont d'accord encore; c'est qu'il faut faire de la politique au Touat beaucoup plus que la guerre. Au lieu de demander 80,000 fr. pour "dépenses de sûreté," comme dit le projet en une plaisante circonlocution, il faudrait dépenser le double, le triple pour se créer des amis dans le Touat—ce ne serait pas difficile, en y mettant le prix.

Personne ne songe à lésiner, personne ne songe à reculer, et les plus anticoloniaux comprennent tout aussi bien que les coloniaux les plus enragés qu'il ne faut, sous aucun prétexte, laisser le Touat entre les mains des ennemis de l'Algérie Française; mais il n'est pas possible que le Ministre ignore qu'il existe un certain Bou-Amema qui ne demande qu'à se rallier, ce qui mettrait fin à toute agitation, tandis qu'il y a d'autres

personnalités, nullement Arabes, qui veulent une expédition. Il s'agit de savoir si nous voulons continuer à faire de la colonisation stupide ou de la politique coloniale intelligente. Il ne s'agit pas seulement des 700,000 fr.; il s'agit de toute la façon ridicule dont sont conduites nos affaires en Algérie. Et voilà pourquoi il est à souhaiter que cette affaire de Touat donne lieu à un débat approfondi ou l'on fixe une bonne fois pour toutes la politique que la France peut et doit suivre en Algérie et dans les régions qui l'entourent.

No. 195.

The Earl of Lytton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 19.)

(No. 418.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 18, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, extracted from the "Siècle" newspaper, a statement, which has also appeared in other papers here, to the effect that agitation amongst the tribes continues on the borders of Morocco, and that the French Government are constructing a small fort at Mihonia, near Adjeroud, 12 kilom. from the frontier of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure in No. 195.

Extract from the "Siècle" of November 18, 1891.

SUR LA FRONTIÈRE MAROCAINE.—L'agitation continue à la frontière Marocaine. Dernièrement, Oul-Delgacher, Caïd des Beni-Oureneck, secondé par la tribu des Beni-Bouzagout, a livré bataille aux tribus des Triffas et des Keddamas, sur les rives de l'Oued-Moulouia. Le combat dura deux heures. La fusillade était très nourrie. Les Triffas, inférieurs en nombre, se replièrent après avoir éprouvé des pertes sensibles.

Une forte crue de l'Oued-Moulouia empêcha les vainqueurs de poursuivre les fuyards.

On annonce une levée générale des Beni-Snassen, des Beni-Bouzagout, des Djaa-Zekara, des Beni-Alla. Une amende de 100 fr. à 150 fr. sera infligée dans les deux camps à quiconque pouvant porter les armes, ne prendra pas part au combat. Dans tous les marchés Arabes, ordre a été donné de ne pas commencer les labeurs avant l'issue de la querelle. Le Gouvernement Français fait construire un fortin au camp de Mihonia, près Adjeroud, à 12 kilom. de la frontière Marocaine.

No. 196.

The Earl of Lytton to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 20.)

(No. 419.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 19, 1891.

WITH reference to my No. 418 of yesterday, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship an extract from the "Temps" contradicting rumours of troubles on the frontier of Morocco, which are, however, still repeated by other papers.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure in No. 196.

Extract from the "Temps" of November 19, 1891.

Alger, le 18 Novembre, 11 heures.

LES journaux d'Alger publient une dépêche de Nemours disant que les troubles continuent à la frontière Marocaine, qu'un engagement a eu lieu entre Beni Snassen et Trifas, que la fusillade aurait duré deux heures. Les Trifas auraient été battus et se prépareraient à prendre une revanche sérieuse.

Renseignements pris auprès du Gouvernement Général, il résulte que cette dépêche fait allusion à des faits depuis longtemps passés, dont vous avez d'ailleurs rendu compte et qui n'ont jamais eu l'importance qu'on leur attribue.

La situation est devenue tellement calme sur la frontière Marocaine que le Général Commandant la Division d'Oran n'envoie même plus de dépêches quotidiennes au Gouvernement, comme il le faisait pendant la période des troubles.

Le Gouverneur, retenu encore aujourd'hui à Alger par des affaires urgentes, partira demain seulement pour Paris.

No. 197.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 23.)

(No. 96. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, November 12, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 53, Confidential, of the 4th instant, transmitting copies of Lord Lytton's despatches Nos. 388 and 389 of the 27th ultimo, with text of M. Deloncle's interpellation in the French Chamber regarding the Tuat question, and of M. Ribot's reply, and copy of a communication to the "Débats" on the same subject by the "Comité de l'Afrique Française."

I observe that M. Deloncle suggested Igli as a basis of operations against Tuat, assuming apparently that it is also outside the Moorish frontier. The inclosed extract from an article published in yesterday's "Réveil du Maroc," a paper frequently inspired by the French Legation, goes still further, and asserts that neither Igli, nor Wad Zoussana, the river that flows through the borders of the Figuig district, nor the country of the Doni Menia belong to Morocco, and states that General Wimpffen in 1870 signified to the then Sultan that France could not recognize his authority in those regions, as they were not mentioned in the Treaty of 1845.

The French Government finds it a very convenient theory to advance that all tribes and "Kessours" not mentioned in Articles IV and V of the Treaty are not Moorish; but consideration of the matter will show that this theory, though plausible, is not correct. For the Sultan to accept that interpretation of the Treaty would be tantamount to surrendering a considerable portion of his dominions.

It will perhaps be convenient here to explain the true meaning of the term "Kessours," translated in the French text as "villages du désert." The word is the plural form of "Kasr," which literally means a large house or castle. It is applied to the walled villages of the oases, which are really a collection of huts inclosed in walls, and inhabited by a family or clan. Thus the various oases contain groups of "Kessours," and the term practically signifies an oasis.

The only "Kessours" mentioned in the Treaty as belonging to Morocco are Figuig and Yche. Thus, according to the theory now advanced by France, not only Tidikelt, Tuat, Gourara, and Igli, but also Taflelt itself, Medaghra, and other important centres are at the disposal of France, for they also, being "Kessours" not mentioned in the Treaty, would be comprised in the "neutral zone;" and the French would not be slow to convert them into "hinterland" of Algeria, and to occupy their territories as a mere "question of police which does not concern even Morocco." Already Medaghra, north of Taflelt, is referred to as the centre from which the Dercawi Chief Mohammed-ben-el-Arbi, in concert with Bu Amama, is plotting against French rule in Algeria, and we should probably soon hear that tranquillity in Algeria can never be secured, so long as Medaghra and Taflelt are not occupied. With these oases and the territories of the Doni Menia and other tribes not mentioned in the Treaty in French hands, the long-coveted Figuig and Yche, which would then have

become outlying and nearly disconnected portions of the reduced Morocco, would soon be annexed to Algeria.

The intrigues in Soos long recently carried on by the French would then be probably more actively pushed on, and the Algerian frontier would gradually be brought round to the Atlantic coast.

With Tuat in French hands, British trade with Timbuctoo and the Western Soudan generally would be seriously affected, for, as I observed in my despatch No. 35 of the 5th May, all the caravan routes, including that to Ghadames, pass through that oasis, with the solitary exception of the Tindouf route, and even that would be shut off if French intrigues in Soos are successful.

I venture to submit the following observations in support of the statement I have made above that the interpretation now sought to be given to the Treaty of 1845 by the French Government is not correct.

The general principle of the agreement come to regarding the frontier is given in the 1st Article, viz., that the frontier was to be the same as had formerly existed between Turkey and Morocco; that it was to remain as it was before the conquest of Algeria by France. The other Articles of the Treaty must be regarded as merely explanatory of the 1st Article.

Thus, Article III states exactly what this frontier was as far as Temet-el-Sessi (which is only about 70 miles from the coast), and specifies the tribes bordering on each side up to that point, at which the "Tell," or cultivated ground, is said to end. The country further south being stated to be desert and uncultivated, it is not considered necessary to carry on the delimitation through it with the same detail and precision, the 1st Article having evidently been considered sufficient for the purpose, but a few of the principal tribes and "Kessours" on either side are mentioned as far as Figuig; beyond that point the 1st Article is left to explain itself.

The question now arises is where was the frontier prior to the conquest of Algeria by France. The Sultan states that Tuat was a portion of Morocco at that time, and that he exhibited to the French Minister documents in proof thereof. That this is the case is rather borne out by the remark of M. Ribot in the Chamber that the relations between Morocco and Tuat, "if they have ever existed with a character more or less regular, have been interrupted for more than fifty years;" but by the terms of the Treaty it is the frontier that existed before the conquest of Algeria, i.e., more than sixty years ago, that is the true frontier now.

That the French Government themselves formerly recognized the rights of Morocco to the Tuat oases is shown by the earlier French Maps, including that published by the French War Office in 1848, and by their having in 1882 requested the Sultan's permission to allow their Trans-Saharan Railway to pass through that oasis (see Sir J. H. Drummond Hay's despatch No. 63 of the 16th April, 1882).

This request was put forward by M. Ordega on his Mission to the Court in 1882, and is referred to in the account of the Mission published three years later by the Medical Officer attached to the Mission. This book ("Le Maroc," by Dr. A. Marcet, Librairie Plon, Paris) also contains a Map, in which Tuat is marked as a portion of Morocco.

The statement in the inclosed article that the purpose of General Wimpffen's expedition in 1870 was to chastize the Doni Menia tribe, and that he informed the Sultan that the French did not admit his authority in that region, does not appear to be in accordance with fact. The alleged object of General Wimpffen's inroad was to follow up and chastize an Algerian Chief, and it was stated that the Sultan's consent had been obtained (see Sir J. Drummond Hay's despatch No. 2 of the 10th May, 1870).

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 197.

Extract from the "Réveil du Maroc" of November 11, 1891.

ET maintenant, par quel côté doit-on commencer de préférence? Laissons tout d'abord les billevesées de quelques confrères, dont un va jusqu'à conseiller de s'installer au Figuig, qui n'a cependant rien à voir en l'espèce, et appartient d'ailleurs au Maroc dont nous voulons respecter et même défendre l'intégrité. En revanche, les organes sérieux ont proposé les uns et repoussé les autres la voie d'Igli; enfin, M. E. Masqueray,

dans ces articles très remarquables, aux "Débats," préconise la marche directe El Goléa sur In Salah. Il est absolument dans le vrai, nous semble-t-il, puisque In Salah est le centre le plus important pour nous, par sa situation géographique, et celui qui nous est le plus hostile; en frappant ce Ksour, on réduit de suite cette "djemâa" qui a organisé les assassinats des officiers Français et nous suscite de continuel ennui. Il n'y a qu'à lâcher la bride aux Chaâmbas; ils se chargeront de la besogne et l'exécuteront rapidement s'ils sentent nos "Joyeux" derrière eux.

Une fois installés à In Salah, nos officiers s'occuperaient de négocier avec les Ksours de l'oued M'Saoud, de l'Aougerout, et de Gourara pour préparer les voies à l'extension de leurs opérations, du moins tâter le terrain en vue de prendre toutes les oasis à revers. Évidemment, il y a des inconnues, des aléas, dans ce genre de négociations, et dans une marche à revers, par le nord, sur 400 kilom., le long du Touat, l'Aougerout, et le Gourara, marche cependant indispensable et qui finira nécessairement à Igli (Gueli) d'où la colonne regagnerait Aïn-Sefra. Ne pas la faire, en négociant le plus possible mais en bataillant ferme et dru quand il le faudrait, ne pas l'exécuter serait une faute, en ce sens qu'on laisserait sur le flanc de la route d'El Goléa à In Salah une ligne de Ksours que de nouvelles excitations Musulmanes ou étrangères entraîneraient, demain peut-être, à couper notre unique ligne de communication avec la base d'opérations. Mais alors, ne serait-il pas prudent et habile de faire aborder, dès le principe, Igli par une seconde colonne Française? De ce coup, on barrerait le chemin du Touat aux Marocains, on paralyserait les gens du Gourara, supposant qu'ils se porteraient au secours d'In Salah; enfin le Touat entier serait menacé, pris entre deux feux, sans compter que double action simultanément conduite, jetterait le désarroi chez nos ennemis, et faciliterait singulièrement les manœuvres politiques et militaires de nos officiers des deux colonnes. Le surcroît de dépense ainsi occasionné serait largement compensé par le temps gagné en général et les subsides qu'on économiserait. Quant à trouver que la voie d'Igli soulèverait des difficultés internationales, c'est un dire enfantin; ni Gueli (Igli) ni le cours de l'oued Zousfana, ni le territoire plus occidental des Doui Menia n'appartiennent au Maroc. Le Général de Wimpffen est allé punir cette tribu de pillards en 1870, en signifiant à Sidi Mohamed, alors Sultan du Maroc, que la France ne pouvait lui reconnaître aucune autorité sur cette région, laissée absolument en dehors de celles citées dans le Traité de 1845, comme dépendant du Maroc. Pas plus les Puissances Européennes ne pourraient considérer notre installation à Igli comme une menace contre l'intégrité Marocaine; car elles savent fort bien que si nous devons envahir le Maroc, nous possédons déjà, pour ce faire, une base d'opérations au nord, et que Igli ne saurait servir à un tel objet.

Enfin, la marche le long de l'oued Zousfana est relativement aisée; les Doui Menia, quoique nombreux, seraient assez facilement contenus par deux postes de 500 hommes établis dans des bordjs, l'un à mi-chemin entre Mograr et Igli et l'autre à Igli même. D'ailleurs, s'ils remuaient trop, on laisserait nos Hamian satisfaire sur eux d'anciennes rancunes ou aller razzier leurs troupeaux.

No. 198.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 23.)

(No. 97. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, November 16, 1891.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 11 of this day, acquainting your Lordship with the secret intelligence received by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, M. Gentile, from the Vizier Gharnit regarding the policy the Sultan has decided to adopt on the Tuat question, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that it is not clear from the Vizier's letter, whether the Sultan has sent troops to Tuat or merely a Commission of civil officials, the Arabic word used signifying a body of men would apply equally well to civil or military. The letter does not explain either when these men were sent; thus it is possible that the Vizier is only referring to the Commissioners sent in the spring (see my despatch No. 35 of the 5th May).

The course the Sultan has decided to adopt is undoubtedly one fraught with much danger, and may lead to most serious consequences. It is evidently intended as a reply to the argument first put forward by the French that the Tuat group of oases do not belong to the Sultan, as His Majesty has no practical authority there, and is unable to restrain the inhabitants from making razzias into Algeria, and that the

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authorities of Algeria must, therefore, themselves take steps for the security of their frontier.

The present determination of the Sultan seems also to indicate that he has received assurances, through the officers His Majesty sent to Tuat, that he would be well received there; it is possible that, seeing themselves obliged to make a choice between the French and the Sultan, the Tuat people have come to the conclusion that the Mussulman rule would be the lesser of the two evils.

Under present circumstances a conflict between France and Morocco appears inevitable. There can of course be no doubt as to what would be the result, but the French would find themselves involved in a much more serious undertaking than a "mere question of police," and one that will involve a considerable expenditure.

On the other hand, apart from the danger to Christians generally in the event of the Sultan's proclaiming a "Jihad" or religious war, the defeat of the Sultan in a distant part of the Empire would probably be the signal for internal troubles, and the whole country would soon drift into a state of anarchy and disorder, ruinous to commerce and dangerous to life and property.

M. Gentile, in communicating to me the substance of the Vizier's letter, inquired what advice I considered should be given to the Sultan. I replied that the matter was so serious that, even had the Vizier written to consult me, I should not think of tendering advice without previous instructions from your Lordship. The case appeared to me one of great difficulty. To advise the Sultan to yield to the French demands would be at once to convince him that we have by agreement given France a free hand in Morocco, and would render our future dealings with the Moorish authorities still more difficult, whilst at the same time one could hardly regard with equanimity a French advance on the south of Morocco, of which Tuat would be but the first step. It would also not be unlikely that the Sultan finding that the only counsel he can get from the friendly Powers is to yield, would be led to consider whether, being unable to offer any resistance, it would not be his best policy to come to terms with his powerful neighbour, even to the extent of a Protectorate in a disguised form.

On the other hand, the French Government having virtually committed itself to the occupation of Tuat, it is not likely that the Sultan by maintaining a bold front can now deter them from their purpose, and the consequences of a collision would be so serious, one could not encourage His Majesty in his determination to offer an armed resistance to the French advance.

M. Gentile stated that he was about to communicate to the German Minister the information he had given me, but that he should not speak on the subject with the Spanish Minister, who had always been very reticent on these matters.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 199.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. White.

(No. 58.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 23, 1891.

THE Conjoint Foreign Committee of the Jewish Board of Deputies and the Anglo-Jewish Association have called my attention to the alleged recent murder of two Hebrews in the vicinity of Mogador.

The actual perpetrators of this crime have apparently not been discovered, though strong suspicion is attached to the Arabs belonging to the district of Iblach in the Province of Haha.

Copies of the Committee's letter and of its inclosure are transmitted herewith, and I have to request you to take such action as you properly can in the matter, and to report to me the result of your inquiry.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 200.

Foreign Office to Jewish Conjoint Foreign Committee.

Foreign Office, November 23, 1891.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to inform you that Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Tangier has been instructed to inquire into the alleged murder of two Hebrews by Arabs in the vicinity of Mogador, and to take such action as he properly can in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 201.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 25.)

(No. 12.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, November 24, 1891.

CID HADJ MOHAMMED TORRES has addressed to me a letter informing me that M. Patenôtre, whilst on his mission at Morocco city, had stated to the Sultan that it was the intention of the French Government to punish the inhabitants of the Oasis of Tuat for the murder of Colonel Flatters and other Frenchmen, and had called upon His Shereefian Majesty to abandon the people of those oases, and to abstain from intercourse with them. Hadj Mohammed Torres adds that the Sultan is prepared to punish these people if they are to blame, but that His Majesty cannot allow the French Government to punish them, and that His Shereefian Majesty will not in any way abandon his rights as regards Tuat, which has ever been part of the Moorish Empire, and was never under Turkish rule, and the inhabitants of which had proclaimed him Sultan on his accession, as all His Majesty's predecessors had been proclaimed by them.

Hadj Mohammed Torres further informs me that identic letters have been addressed to the Spanish Minister and Italian Chargé d'Affaires as being parties to the collective note of 1887, and desires me to communicate with your Lordship on the subject, and to make known to his Excellency, for the information of His Shereefian Majesty, the reply I may receive from your Lordship.

I am transmitting to your Lordship by post a translation of Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres' letter.

No. 202.

The Southern Morocco Mission to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received November 27.)

My Lord,

Office of the "Reaper," Ardrossan, November 26, 1891.

BY the kind intervention of the late Sir W. Kirby Green, a concession of ground for a European cemetery was obtained at Morocco city from His Serene Majesty the Sultan. Reports from our missionaries there indicate that there are appearances of this arrangement being cancelled. Would your Lordship be good enough to instruct Sir Charles Euan-Smith to procure a confirmation of the original concession, and to have the ground, if possible, placed under Protestant control?

Sir W. Kirby Green also made a request to the Moorish authorities that one of a number of new houses about to be erected at Mogador should be reserved for this Mission. I should esteem it a favour if Sir Charles Euan-Smith would indorse this application.

May I also venture to ask that Sir Charles would use his influence with the Moorish Government in favour of securing premises at Demnat for a medical Mission, which we are prepared to open as soon as a footing can be gained; further, that he would induce the authorities to grant the usual "mona" to our missionaries when travelling on payment in full being tendered? "Mona" is given to all travellers who bear the Sultan's letters, but the possession of this document involves so many restrictions and vexatious interferences with their route and progress that our missionaries prefer to travel without it, but in every case they make ample payment.

for hospitality received. Even with this rule they have difficulty at times in procuring food for themselves and their animals, hence the present application.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON.

No. 203.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 60.)

Sir, Foreign Office, November 28, 1891.
I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter from the Southern Morocco Mission,* relative to various privileges which they are desirous of obtaining from the Shereefian Government; and I have to instruct you to furnish me with a Report upon the present position of the questions raised in this communication.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 204.

Foreign Office to Southern Morocco Mission.

Sir, Foreign Office, November 28, 1891.
IN reply to your letter of the 26th instant, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier has been called upon for a Report with reference to the privileges which your Society is desirous of obtaining from the Sultan of Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 205.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 1.)

(No. 100.)

My Lord, Tangier, November 24, 1891.
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 56 of the 18th instant, transmitting copy of Sir J. Pauncefote's despatch No. 212 of the 22nd ultimo, regarding the controversy between Mrs. Leared and Mr. Stalker, reporting that the United States' Consul at Tangier had informed the Department of State that the case had been settled, as Mrs. Leared had built a wall which completely prevents any view of her premises from Mr. Stalker's window.

Mr. Mathews, the United States' Consul, had made the same statement to me, but Mrs. Leared subsequently informed me that it was not a fact that the matter had been settled.

I have now again inquired of Mrs. Leared whether a settlement has been come to, and I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of Mrs. Leared's reply, from which it appears that she still claims to have the windows in question closed, and wishes to bring the matter into the Cadi's Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 205.

Mrs. Leared to Mr. White.

Dear Sir,

Tangier, November 24, 1891.
I THANK you for your letter. Yes, I have built two walls in self-defence; I still think if the law is that the windows are to be closed, I should prefer it. Mr. Stalker and myself are good neighbours, but I certainly wish the windows

* No. 202.

closed if possible, as they overlook my entrance; besides, it is an important question for future building. I should like it settled in the Cadi's Court.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) MARY J. LEARED.

No. 206.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 1.)

(No. 102. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, November 24, 1891.
WITH reference to my telegram No. 12 of this date, communicating to your Lordship the substance of a letter addressed to me by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres, I have the honour to transmit herewith a full translation of the same.

Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres has informed me that, in submitting the draft of this letter for the Sultan's approval, he had suggested that it should be addressed to the Representatives of Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Germany, and Austria, but when the draft was returned with certain corrections he was instructed to address it only to the Representatives of those Powers who were parties to the Collective Note of 1887. In this letter Hadj Mohammed Torres recounts the grounds for claiming Tuat, Gourara, and Tidikelt as portions of Morocco, and declares that the Sultan will not consent to abandon his rights in those districts, nor to allow the French to punish the inhabitants, but that His Majesty is prepared to inflict on them himself any punishment they may deserve. In conclusion, his Excellency states that the Sultan considers it his duty to bring the matter to the knowledge of the Powers who were parties to the Collective Note of March 1887, and requests to be acquainted with your Lordship's reply for communication to His Shereefian Majesty.

Whilst thus appealing to the friendly Powers in accordance with the terms of the Collective Note, the tone of this letter appears to confirm the statement made by the Vizir Gharneet in his Secret letter to the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, reported in my despatch No. 97 of the 16th instant, that the Sultan is determined to maintain his rights in Tuat to the utmost of his ability. Reports from various parts of the country say that orders have been issued for contingents to join in an expedition, and in Fez it is supposed that it is the Sultan's intention to march to Tafilelt.

The Sultan may consider that should he yield to the French without a show of opposition he would probably lose prestige throughout the country, whereas should he decide to resist by force a French incursion, and, as "Emir-el-Mumenin," or Prince of the true believers, send out emissaries amongst the Berbers to bid them assist him to withstand an invasion of the infidel, they would probably all flock to his standard, and he would find himself at the head of a large army.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 206.

Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres to Mr. White.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

15 Rebia II, 1309 (November 18, 1891).

YOU are aware of the views of the French Government upon Tuat, and that their Minister, his Excellency M. Patenôtre, informed the Sultan officially that it was the intention of his Government to punish the people of Tuat, Gourara, and Tidikelt. They assume the task of punishing them on account of the murder of Colonel Flatters and others. He called upon His Majesty to abandon the people of Tuat, Gourara, and Tidikelt, and not to intervene in the affairs of those regions. But it is evident that the Government of Morocco is unable to permit that the French Government should punish the people of Tuat and of other districts, and in the same manner the Sultan will not entertain in any way the demand of the French Government that he should renounce Tuat and other places, for those tribes are among his subjects, as is shown by the fact that when His Majesty was recognized as Emperor in the year 1290, they went to meet His Majesty at Fez with the other tribes of the country, and proclaimed him in the said year as they did his predecessors, the hallowed, and paid them the Government

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dues, and addressed the "Khutba" from their pulpits in their names ("Khutba" an oration containing prayers for the welfare of the reigning Prince), and they at present continue to mention the Sultan's name in it. Furthermore, you know that the Map made by the French Government in 1848, and of which a new edition was brought out by their War Office in 1884, proves that those tribes are in subjection to His Majesty the Emperor of Morocco, and these belonged to the Moorish Empire since a date prior to the French conquest of Algeria, and the principal object of the Treaty of 1845 was to keep the frontier between the territories of Morocco and France the same as it had been before between those of Morocco and Turkey, as is clearly stated in the 1st Article of that Treaty, and to settle it firmly. The said tribes are in subjection to Morocco from time of old, proofs of which are in existence. They never were subject to the Turkish Empire before. Therefore, if these tribes render themselves guilty of anything making punishment requisite, it appertains to the Sultan to exercise his authority over them, as is clearly provided in the IVth Article of the same Treaty. Consequently, if the French Government interferes with those tribes, it is a violation of engagements and Treaties which are concluded to safeguard the rights of States and cause them to be respected. It is, therefore, the duty of His Shereefian Majesty to bring these facts to the knowledge of the Signatory Powers of the Agreement of 1883,* and His Majesty has commanded me to communicate this intelligence to their Representatives, and I herewith inform your Excellency, trusting that you will place your friendly Government in possession of it, and will make known their answer to me, so that I may transmit it to His Shereefian Majesty.

Peace and friendship.

(Signed) MOHAMMED TORRES.

No. 207.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Pauncefote.

(No. 259.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 2, 1891.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 212 of the 22nd October last, respecting the controversy between Mr. Stalker and Mrs. Leared at Tangier, I transmit to you herewith copy of a despatch, with inclosure, from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at that city,† stating that Mrs. Leared still wishes to lay the case before the Cadi's Court; and I have to request you to ask the United States' Government whether they have any objection to urge against her doing so.

It will be seen that Mrs. Leared, while personally on friendly terms with Mr. Stalker, considers that an important question of law is involved, upon which it is desirable to obtain an authoritative decision from the competent Tribunal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 208.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 4.)

(No. 14.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, December 4, 1891.

I HAVE received a private letter from the elder of the two MacLeans, containing a suggestion to me that I should address a request to the Sultan to send him to Tangier as soon as practicable, in order to meet me. I have consulted Mr. White on the subject, and he thinks there is no objection to this course. Will your Lordship authorize me to follow it? It appears to me that Kaïd MacLean would be in a position to elucidate to a great extent the present state of affairs at Fez.

* ? mistake for 1887.

† No. 205.

No. 209.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 8.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, December 4, 1891, 11.5 P.M.

TUAT.

Mr. White reports that the Representatives at Tangier of the three Powers who signed the collective note of 1887 have received a communication from the Moorish Government in which the Sultan asserts his rights over Tuat, and his intention to maintain them, and asks the three Powers to state their views. I should be glad to learn the nature of the reply which Spain proposes to return to this communication.

No. 210.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 9.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, December 4, 1891, 11 P.M.

YOU should exercise your own judgment in regard to Maclean's suggestion reported in your telegram No. 14 of to-day. I have no means of forming an opinion.

No. 211.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 94. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 4, 1891.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 7 of the 13th instant, I transmit to your Excellency herewith copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier,* forwarding copy of a note from the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting the Tuat question.

This note recites the grounds upon which the Sultan of Morocco bases his claim to Tuat, Gouraya, and Tidikelt as integral portions of his dominions, and declares that His Shereefian Majesty will not consent to abandon his rights in those districts, or to allow the French Government to interfere with their inhabitants.

The Minister adds that the Sultan is prepared to inflict punishment upon the tribes if deserved, and concludes by appealing to the Signatory Powers of the collective note of 1887 against any violation of the rights secured to His Majesty by Treaty.

As it appears from this note that a similar communication has been addressed by the Moorish Government to the Spanish Representative in Morocco, I shall be glad if your Excellency will ascertain from the Spanish Government what answer they propose to return to it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 212.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 103.)

My Lord,

Tangier, November 30, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 58 of the 23rd instant, transmitting copies of letter and inclosure addressed to your Lordship by the Conjoint Foreign Committee of the Jewish Board of Deputies regarding the recent murder of two Jews in the Province of Haha.

On news of the double murder reaching Mogador, Consul Payton at once reported to me the sad occurrence, and I lost no time in making a representation on the subject to the Shereefian Government.

* No. 206.

Herewith I beg to inclose translation of my letter to Cid Emfadi Gharnit acquainting him with the particulars that had reached me, and requesting his Excellency to cause a searching inquiry into the matter to be made, and the murderers to be punished as they deserved, and also asking that an indemnity be paid to the family of the murdered man, and that Mr. Bitton, the merchant to whom the money robbed belonged, be repaid the amount.

Herewith I have the honour to transmit translation of the Vizir Gharnit's reply, in which his Excellency informs me that the Sultan has given orders in the sense desired by me, and that "blood-money" would be paid to the family of the murdered men. His Excellency also states that the sum robbed will be refunded on proof of its amount.

I communicated a translation of the Vizir's letter to Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador, in order that he might be acquainted with the orders given by the Sultan, and thus be able to report whether they were being duly carried into effect, and I requested him to inform Mr. Bitton that he should be prepared to produce proof in support of his claim.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 212.

Mr. White to Cid Emfadi Gharnit.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

Tangier, October 13, 1891 (9 Rebia I, 1309).

HER Majesty's Consul at Mogador has reported to me that two Jews, Selam Abihaseera and his brother Makhloof, have been murdered under the following circumstances.

The British merchant Abraham Bitton had delivered 740 dollars to Selam Abihaseera, who was his agent, to purchase produce. The said Selam and his brother Makhloof went to the "sok" of Aid Dowd, in Haha, for that purpose on the 25th September, and were invited by certain Moors in the jurisdiction of Kaïd Hamed O'Mbark, of Ait Zilten, to go to their house "Dar Bokdir," in the Kalila of Ibelez, to inspect some "sandarac." The Jews not having returned, their friends appealed on their behalf to the Kaïds of Mtooga and Ifliuzu, who sent soldiers to make a search, with the result that the bodies of the murdered men were found in "Dar Bokdir," according to one account, or, according to another account, on the border between the districts of Ait Ibelaz and Eda Oulouzia.

These murders of Jews are unhappily becoming of frequent occurrence, and it is very desirable that a stop be put to them by making an example of the guilty persons. In this case it will be easy to discover the murderers. I have therefore to request that a strict and searching investigation be made into the matter, and that the murderer or murderers receive the punishment they have deserved. I have also to request that an indemnity be paid to the family of the murdered men, and that Mr. Bitton be also indemnified for his loss.

Peace and friendship.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 212.

Cid Emfadi Gharnit to Mr. White.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

27 Rebia I, 1309 (October 31, 1891).

I HAVE received your letter, saying that the British Consul at Mogador has informed you that the two Jews, Bohasira and his brother Makhloof, received from a merchant of your nationality at Mogador 700 dollars for the purpose of buying merchandize, and that they went to the "sok" in Ait Dawied, in Haha, and a Moor of the district of Kaïd Hmed-ben-Mbarek Zilseni invited them to his house, known as "Dar Bokdie," in order to examine some sandarach, and they went there, after which there was nothing further known respecting them. They were searched for, and their bodies were found at the "Dar Bokdie" according to one account. You ask me that

* i.e., market.

the perpetrators should be dealt with as they deserve, in order that others may take warning by it. I have acquainted His Shereefian Majesty with your letter, and His Majesty is aware of its contents, and has commanded me to answer you that the Governor of Mogador had written to His Shereefian Majesty, saying that he had heard that the two Jews disappeared in the district of Belass, a part of Beni Zemzem, in the Government of the Kaïd of Ait Zilten, and he wrote to the latter inquiring as to their murder, and he informed him that their animals had been found between the territories of Mtuga and of the Governor of Ida Oubouzia, and that a number of the latter Kaïd's people came to the gates of the Mogador bearing the corpses of the two Jews, and that the Jews buried them in their cemetery; also that His Majesty has issued his Shereefian order to the Governors of Haha and Mtuga to make an investigation as to the murderers, and arrest them if they are discovered, and that the Governor of the territory in which the murder may be proved to have taken place settle the affair by paying the value of the merchandize, if it is proved to have been in their possession, and pay the customary blood-money, without the money (said to have been on their person), until it be established by the testimony of Abdool, who saw the money which the two Jews had on them when they left Mogador, in accordance with the rule laid down by the Government in this matter. His Majesty has also ordered his uncle, Mulai El Amin, who was sent to repress the disorders of Ait Zilten, who had attacked and destroyed the house of their Governor, and engaged in rebellion, and to compel them to pay dues, to attend to the matter of those two Jews, and to see to its settlement in the manner appointed.

Finished.

(Signed) CID EMFADL GHARNIT.

No. 213.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 11.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Madrid, December 7, 1891.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 8, I have the honour to report that, with regard to the Moorish note respecting Tuat, I was informed this afternoon by the Spanish Minister of State that the answer which should, in his opinion, be returned to it, should be on the following lines:—

"The Moorish Government should be again given unofficially the advice which was offered to them confidentially last June by the Spanish, British, and Italian Representatives at Tangier, which, however, does not appear to have been followed."

If your Lordship approves of it, the Spanish Government would be willing to draw up an identic reply to the Moorish note of the 18th November, which would be sent in by the Representatives of those three Powers on the same day to the Government of the Sultan.

I may add that the Italian Ambassador here has spoken to the Spanish Minister of State on the subject, and that he has expressed himself as approving of his Excellency's suggestion.

No. 214.

Mr. White to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 8.)

(No. 104.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 2, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that M. Helonis, Dragoman of the French Legation, left this morning for Fez with the ostensible object of endeavouring to arrange a question that has arisen between the Moorish Government and the Company who obtained the Contract for the new silver coin reported in my despatch No. 54 of the 16th July last.

It appears that the Sultan has declined to accept the coin delivered as it is not of the weight stipulated in the Contract, whilst the Company maintain that it is customary to allow a certain latitude, and claim that the coin must be accepted even if not of the exact weight stipulated, nor all of uniform weight.

In my above-mentioned despatch I pointed out that the weight given did not tally, and that if the individual coins were of full weight the total weight of the 20,000,000 francs' worth of coin would exceed the 100,000 kilog. stipulated in the 2nd Article of the Contract.

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The French Chargé d'Affaires stated to me, when speaking on the subject, that the new coin is accumulating here, and that a serious loss is being incurred by the French Company through the delay in receiving payment owing to the refusal of the Moorish Government to accept delivery of it, and the present great depreciation of Spanish money, in which the Sultan is entitled to pay for the new money, adds heavily to the Company's loss. M. Helonis has therefore been directed to proceed to the Court with instructions to overcome the Sultan's objection, and to obtain his acceptance of the new coin as it is, the expenses of the mission being defrayed by the French Company.

Although M. Helonis has doubtless received instructions in the above sense, it is generally believed that the primary object of his mission is to bring about a change in the Sultan's present unyielding attitude regarding the Tuat question.

The French Government are probably uneasy at the Sultan's determination to oppose their annexation of those oases, and are anxious to avoid the necessity for a costly expedition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 215.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 8.)

(No. 15.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, December 8, 1891.

WITH reference to my telegram to your Lordship No. 12 regarding Tuat, I have the honour to report that the Shereef of Wazan embarked in the French steamer this morning for Oran, with the avowed purpose of going to Tuat. His influence over the tribes of that country is very considerable, and it is said that he has been summoned by them. There is, however, little doubt that he would not proceed there save under French auspices.

No. 216.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 9.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, December 8, 1891, 6 P.M.

TUAT: your telegram No. 11 of yesterday.

For the present it will, in my opinion, be sufficient if, in reply to the note from Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Representatives of the three Powers advise the Moorish Government to ask the French Government to state clearly the grounds upon which they advance a claim to the ownership of the oasis of Tuat. Instructions in this sense will be sent to Sir C. Euan-Smith as soon as I learn that the Spanish and Italian Governments agree.

No. 217.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 64.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 9, 1891.

I APPROVE Mr. White's proceedings in the matter of the two Jews murdered near Mogador, as reported in his despatch No. 103 of the 30th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 218.

Foreign Office to Conjoint Foreign Committee of the Jewish Board of Deputies and the Anglo-Jewish Association.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 9, 1891.

WITH reference to my letter of the 23rd ultimo, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you, herewith, copy of the reply which has been returned by

the Moorish Government to the representation made by Mr. White, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier, respecting the murder of two Hebrews named Abihaxara, near Mogador.*

The Vizier states that the Sultan has given orders for the arrest of the murderers, and for the payment of compensation to the family of the deceased, as well as for the refund of the moneys stolen, on proof being furnished as to the amount.

Mr. White states that he has communicated the Vizier's note to Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador, in order that he may be acquainted with the orders given by the Sultan, and be able to report whether they are being carried into effect; and he adds that he has requested that officer to inform Mr. Bitton that he should be prepared to produce proof in support of his claim.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 219.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 11.)

(No. 100. Confidential.)

Madrid, December 8, 1891.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 8 of the 4th instant relative to the note which has recently been addressed by the Moorish Government to the Representatives of certain foreign Powers at Tangier, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that, at an interview I had yesterday with the Duke of Tetuan, Spanish Minister of State, his Excellency stated that in his opinion the Moorish Government had shown a total disregard to the advice which had been given them regarding the course to be pursued in the matter of the alleged intention on the part of the French Government to possess themselves of the Oasis of Tuat.

The Moorish Government had been counselled, said his Excellency, to address a note to the French Representative at Tangier, inviting the French Government to state clearly their views on the matter, and the grounds on which they founded any pretension to the ownership of the territory in question. On the answer received from the French Government the Moorish Government would have been enabled to form its judgment, and in the case of their feeling dissatisfied with the French view taken on the subject would have been able to return a suitable reply.

As a last extremity the Moorish Government could have appealed to the Powers whose interest it is not to see the principle of the maintenance of the territorial *status quo* in the Empire disturbed. The Moorish Government, however, had thought fit either purposely, or through misconception of the exact meaning of the advice which had been offered them, "to commence," as the Duke put it, "at the end instead of at the beginning," and had addressed to the Representatives at Tangier of Spain, Great Britain, and Italy, the note of the 18th ultimo, without having taken any steps whatever to refer the matter previously to the consideration of the French Government.

The Duke of Tetuan informed me that he would have no objection, should Her Majesty's Government consider the suggestion a good one, to draw up, in agreement with them, the terms of a note which could be presented simultaneously to M. Torres, the Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs at Tangier, in which should be repeated in an official manner, and as a reply to the Moorish note of the 18th ultimo, the advice which had been already given in the month of June last with regard to the threatened occupation by the French of Tuat.

The Duke of Tetuan had spoken in a similar sense to the Italian Ambassador here, when questioned by him as to the course which the Spanish Government proposed to take in the present circumstances of the case.

The Duke of Tetuan is duly impressed with the importance of the question, and he stated to me that, in his opinion, it would be impossible to exercise too great precaution respecting it. Hasty action, he said, on the part of the Powers to whom the Moorish Government have now applied might precipitate matters in an unfortunate direction, and lead the French, under some pretext or other, to seize the territory by a "coup de main," and thus establish a "fait accompli" which it would be most desirable to avoid.

I may add that the Duke, in reply to a remark I made him, stated that since the

* October 31, 1891.

arrival at Madrid of M. Roustan, the new French Ambassador, the latter had not once opened his lips to him either on the subject of Morocco or of the Oasis of Tuat.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 220.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 10.)
(Telegraphic.) P. Foreign Office, December 11, 1891.
IN reply to the Moorish note inclosed in Mr. White's despatch No. 102 of the 24th November, you should advise the Sultan to ask the French Government to explain the grounds upon which they advance a claim to the ownership of the Oasis of Tuat. But do not send your note until your Italian and Spanish colleagues are prepared to do the same.

No. 221.

Sir Clare Ford to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 101.)
My Lord, Madrid, December 10, 1891.
WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 9 of the 8th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that on speaking to the Duke of Tetuan, Spanish Minister of State, last evening on the subject, his Excellency assured me that he entirely agreed with the course which your Lordship proposed to take at present with regard to the treatment of the Tuat question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS CLARE FORD.

No. 222.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 16.)
(Telegraphic.) P. Tangier, December 14, 1891.
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's telegram No. 10 of the 11th instant, and to state with reference thereto that the Italian and Spanish Ministers desire, in the reply that we are about to address to the Moorish note, to add to the word "Tuat" the words "Gourara and Tidikelt," as specifying the region over which the French are aiming at extending their influence.

Has your Lordship any objection to offer to the proposed addition?

No. 223.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir Clare Ford.

(No. 97.)
Sir, Foreign Office, December 14, 1891.
I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 100 of the 8th instant, recording your conversation with the Duke of Tetuan of the previous day in regard to the question of Tuat.

I concur in the views expressed by his Excellency as to the expediency of avoiding any hasty action in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 224.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 15.)

(No. 106.)
My Lord, Tangier, December 6, 1891.
WITH reference to Mr. White's despatch No. 77 of the 7th September, I have the honour to report that the Italian Minister, M. Cantagalli, informed me to-day, in

the course of a visit which he paid me, that he has again received news from Mogador that a squadron of seven men-of-war had been recently seen off the Soos coast standing in close to the shore.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

No. 225.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 11.)
(Telegraphic.) P. Foreign Office, December 15, 1891.
I HAVE no objection to the insertion of the words "Gourara" and "Tidikelt" in the note to the Moorish Government respecting the Tuat question.

No. 226.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 17.)

(No. 105.)
My Lord, Tangier, December 5, 1891.
I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that I arrived at Tangier on Thursday afternoon, the 3rd instant, in Her Majesty's ship "Thunderer," which was courteously placed at my disposal by the Admiral commanding the Mediterranean fleet in order to convey me hither from Gibraltar.
I was received on landing with the usual ceremonies by the Moorish officials, and the Italian, French, German, and Austrian Legations sent representatives down to the pier to welcome me on my disembarkation.

I have since paid the usual ceremonial official visits to the Representatives of the Moorish Government and to all my colleagues of the Corps Diplomatique.
I was also presented on my landing with an Address signed by the members of the British colony, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy with this despatch.
I may notice here that after submitting to me the draft of the Address, which contained nothing objectionable, the signatories to the Address proposed at the last moment to enter the paragraph transcribed below:—

"We hope that your Excellency's stay among us will be a long one, and that it will be a decided improvement on the present state of affairs as regards British interests in Morocco."

Mr. White, the Chargé d'Affaires, sent a telegram to me to this effect to Gibraltar, and I requested him to have the paragraph struck out of the Address, and this was accordingly done.

I beg also to inclose to your Lordship the translation of a letter I have addressed the Vizir Cid Emfadl Gharnit, informing him of my arrival in this country.

I purpose submitting a Report to your Lordship regarding the new Legation buildings at a future date. Though every possible effort had been made by Mr. Thompson, the contractor, acting under the orders of the Board of Works, to have these buildings ready for me on my arrival, this was found impossible from circumstances over which Mr. Thompson had no control.

It will be still some time before I can settle down in the new Legation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 226.

Address presented to Sir C. Euan-Smith on his landing at Tangier.

To his Excellency Sir Charles Bean Euan-Smith, K.C.B., C.S.I., Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, Minister Plenipotentiary, and Consul-General for Morocco.

May it please your Excellency,
ON our behalf, and on that of Her Britannic Majesty's other subjects residing in this Empire, we beg to offer to your Excellency and to your Excellency's family a hearty welcome to Morocco.

Her Britannic Majesty's subjects in general must congratulate themselves that so zealous a Diplomat as your Excellency has been chosen by Her Majesty's Government to represent and protect British interests in Morocco, and the more so as your Excellency's vast experience in connection with African affairs will enable your

Excellency to further those interests to the advantage of Her Britannic Majesty's subjects.

We hope that your Excellency's stay among us will be a long one, and that it will prove as pleasant to your Excellency and to your Excellency's family as we trust it will be beneficial to us.

We beg to subscribe ourselves, at Tangier, this 3rd day of December, 1891.

(Signed by 45 persons.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 226.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to Cid Emfadi Gharnit.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

December 4, 1891 (2 Jumadi, 1309).

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I arrived at Tangier yesterday, and have taken up my post as Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Shereefian Majesty in this country.

I propose to visit the Shereefian Court at the earliest possible date in order to present my credentials to His Shereefian Majesty, and as soon as ever the season is suitable for travelling I wish speedily, with the least possible delay, to convey to His Majesty personally the friendly messages with which I am encharged on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen and Her Majesty's Government.

In the meantime, I request your Excellency to apprise the Sultan of my arrival, and to assure His Majesty that, in obedience to the instructions I have received from Her Majesty's Government, it will be my earnest endeavour to maintain the cordial relations that have happily always existed between the two Governments, and to draw still closer the bonds of friendship that unite the two countries.

Peace.

(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

No. 227.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 17.)

(No. 107. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 9, 1891.

SOME few days prior to my departure from England my attention was called to a letter printed in the "Times," and which was headed as being sent by their own correspondent in Tangier, describing certain changes of an extremely radical character which, under the orders of the Sultan of Morocco, were reported as having taken place at Fez.

I found on arrival at Gibraltar, and again on landing here, that this letter had excited considerable attention, especially as it is known to have been written by a Mr. Walter B. Harris, an English gentleman, who has travelled over a considerable portion of Morocco, and who has now gone temporarily to represent the "Times" as their special correspondent in Yemen.

I therefore caused careful inquiries to be made as to the truth of the statements contained in this letter, and I requested Mr. De Vismes de Ponthieu, the Head Interpreter and Vice-Consul to this Legation, to embody the results of these inquiries in two Memoranda which are attached to this despatch.

For convenience of reference I have caused the original letter from the "Times" to be printed side by side with Mr. De Vismes' remarks, dealing *seriatim* with the various statements made therein.

It will be seen that the statements made by the correspondent of the "Times" are not substantiated by facts, and that persons and names have been mixed up together in a somewhat confused and misleading manner.

As regards the great mass of persons forming the *entourage* of an Oriental Monarch such as the Emperor of Morocco, any changes in their *personnel* would have but very little effect upon the political situation.

The downfall of such persons as the Vizir Gharnit or the Sultan's Chamberlain, Sid Hamed-ben-Musa, which was reported in the "Times," would, however, indicate an entire change in the influences that have hitherto guided the Sultan, and it is, therefore, satisfactory at this juncture to learn that His Highness has not called new and untrained advisers to his councils.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 227.

Memorandum.

THE only foundation for the report that appeared recently in the "Times" as to the deposition of the Sultan's Chief Minister appears to be that the Vice-Royalty of Fez has been taken away from Mulai Ismail, His Shereefian Majesty's brother, to be given to Mulai Abdelaziz, the Sultan's favourite son, still a boy, whom His Shereefian Majesty is credited with a design of making his successor to the throne, and that a namesake of the Chief Amin, a man named El Tazi, has been arrested and sent to Morocco to live away from the Shereefian presence. The incident which led to the adoption of this measure is thus stated: The Sultan had not a very long time ago appointed as Chief Cadi of his realm, to reside at Fez, a "Taleb" named Sid-el-Hadi, noted for his learning and other qualities, whose conduct since his appointment seemed to indicate that he aimed at superior influence. One of his cringing adulators, the "Adel" (Notary) El Tazi, remarked at a banquet at which both Mulai Ismail and Sid-el-Hadi were present that he would be very glad if the former were Sultan, and the latter Grand Vizir. These words were reported to the Sultan, who was then at Mequinez, by some of those present, whereupon Mulai Ismail was immediately deposed, and the man El Tazi arrested and sent to Morocco. The Cadi Sid-el-Hadi took refuge in a sanctuary, fearing the Sultan's vengeance, but has since returned to his post, and the Sultan has not yet relieved him of his functions.

The Chamberlain Ben Hamed's position remains unchanged, although I have it from one source that the Sultan being displeased at the delay which usually takes place in the issue of his Shereefian orders through that officer's intermediary, has encharged the Minister for War, Cid Mohammed-ben-el-Arbi Sglin, with the superintendence of the courier service by which those orders are transmitted to their respective destinations.

This is reported to me by a person who is intimate with the Confidential Secretary of Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(Signed) G. DE VISMES DE PONTHEIU.

Inclosure 2 in No. 227.

Memorandum.

N.B.—The Article below is a reprint in the "Gibraltar Chronicle" of an Article from the "Times" newspaper.

"SEVEN days a Vizir, and for ever after a slave." So runs an Arab proverb, and the news from Morocco shows how true an insight into Oriental politics possessed the proverb-maker, for, unconsciously following the example of his co-religionist the Sultan of Turkey, Mulai-el-Hassan, Emperor of Morocco, has dismissed his Prime Minister (1).

Truly it may be argued that a Vizir more or less at such a remote Court as that of Morocco can make but little difference to the politics of Europe; yet, as far as the Sultan of Morocco can be considered of interest to Europe, the fact of a change in the Ministry cannot be unattended by results of some sort or another, for to such an extent is His Shereefian Majesty in the hands of his Ministry, and such a control do they exercise over him, that no document falls into his hands until its contents have been devoured by one at least of his scheming politicians, and whether the contents are ever made known to

(1.) This is not correct. By "Prime Minister" we can only understand the Sultan's Grand Vizir. The latter, El Arbi-ben-Mukhtar, has, for about seven years past, suffered from paralysis; and, though retaining his rank and honours, has for that time been relieved from all active participation in affairs, his Khalifa, a man named Sinhazi, acting for him.

him at all is merely problematical, depending often upon whether the result is likely to injure or strengthen the party in power. But on the details of routine in the Moorish Court we have no reason to dwell now. *Si Hamed-ben-Musa, the Vizir (2), himself the son of a Vizir, has fallen from the Royal favour and been dismissed (3) with the confiscation of the plunder of two Vizirships.* To play at politics in such a country as Morocco is a risky game, requiring courage as well as tact, hypocrisy as well as a total absence of conscience. All, or nearly all, end thus—"Seven days a Vizir, and for ever after a slave." That there have been notable exceptions amongst Moorish politicians is true, but these exceptions, as the old adage has it, but help to prove the rule. Vizir after Vizir rises to grow wealthy, and to die in a dungeon deserted and starving. Where is their following then? Those who bowed lowest are the first to turn and rend them. How many have drunk the fatal cup of tea or coffee at their Sultan's order? How many more have languished in underground prisons? Yet, with these examples constantly before their eyes, the rush to riches and power is the same. It seems that, in their wild ambition, they forget the end of their predecessors. It is like the gambler who gains, but never gains enough, and, in his endeavour to better his position, in many cases a safe one, and one that he might be well content to remain in, is ruined.

Skilful, unscrupulous, averse to all progress, in character strong, but of a strength not calling for admiration, in stature short and fat, in feature coarse, *Si Hamed-ben-Musa* formed the most notable character at the Moorish Court. It was he who, bowing low before his Royal master, introduced into his presence the European Ministers and their staffs on their periodical visits to the Court; and it was he who, with flattering words, and with the oft-reiterated promise of "to-morrow," would successfully postpone for ever some event distasteful to himself or his Royal master (4).

The reason of his fall is a secret, but he falls not alone. *Mulaï Ismail (5),* said to be the favourite brother of the Sultan, has lost his position as Khalifa to his brother. A little younger than the Emperor, *Mulaï Ismail* held his Court at Fez, and during the Sultan's absence in the other capitals he was all-powerful. The two men, *Mulaï Ismail* and *Si Hamed-ben-Musa*, had nought, or little, in their character in common. The

(2.) *Si Hamed-ben-Musa* is not the Grand Vizir, but the Sultan's Chamberlain and Keeper of the Seal, and is regarded as the Sultan's most influential and trusted adviser. He is said to be absolutely loyal to his master, which can hardly be asserted of the majority of the Sultan's *entourage*. It is true that his father, the late *Sid Musa*, was Grand Vizir.

(3.) The report that *Si Hamed* has been dismissed his office, and that published by the "*Réveil du Maroc*" that he had been deprived of the keeping of the Shereefian seal, have both been authoritatively contradicted.

(4.) In this passage three characters appear to have been merged into one. The introducer of the Ambassadors, or Master of the Ceremonies, generally called *Mul-el-Meshwar*, or *Kaid-el-Meshwar*, is a completely distinct individual from the Chamberlain, who, however, is generally in attendance on the Sultan at all official receptions. The person who, with flattering words and oft-reiterated promises, endeavours to postpone events distasteful to the Court,

latter of vulgar origin, for his grandfather is said to have been a slave, although his father rose to the position the son has just lost, was incomparably inferior in character compared to the descendant of the Prophet. Kind, just, of no ambitious designs, *Mulaï Ismail* is a man against whom one seldom hears even a word of abuse. But one and the same reason, whatever it may be, has led to the fall of both, together with the *Chief Cadi*, a *Vizir known as El Tazi (6)*, and other Nobles and "*Tolba*," or lawyers.

As to the grounds on which these dismissals have taken place, rumour is rife. A plot to put *Mulaï Ismail* on the throne; a flagrant miscarriage of justice through bribery—far too common an event to necessitate such severe measures; a few words spoken in jest and taken seriously as revolutionary sayings; the misappropriation of revenue—such are some of the reasons in the mouths of the natives. Yet, after all, it is more probable that some rival has reached the ear of the Sultan to pour into it the history of some plot that, apart from his own imagination, exists not at all. But this is a danger to which every politician amongst Moors and Oriental peoples knows he is exposed equally with any wrong act or mistake of his own. And yet, in spite of this, they struggle on, growing richer and more unscrupulous, until one day it comes—the fatal fall. So it has been all through the ages of Oriental history. The accounts of the very Caliphs themselves, who followed so closely on the birth of Islam, are full of such stories of victories unsurpassed almost in the history of the world rewarded with torture and death. So has history repeated itself. Just as a thousand Vizirs have ended their careers before him, so now has the favourite of the Sultan of Morocco fallen. As a man powerful, skilful as a politician, we doubt his skill to undo the work of last week or his power to regain the position he has lost.

(Signed)

is *Cid Emfadl Gharnit*, whose official denomination is "*Vizir for Foreign Affairs*," and who, undoubtedly, is a very influential person and a consummate diplomatist.

(5.) *Mulaï Ismail* is a brother of the present Sultan. The Sultan has two Khalifas, or Viceroys, one at Fez and another at Morocco, who represent the Regal authority at the respective capitals during the Sultan's absence. *Mulaï Ismail* has for many years been the Sultan's Khalifa at Fez. There is no doubt that he has been deposed, though the Sultan's chief object in this measure appears to have been to invest his favourite son, *Mulaï Abdelaziz*, with the dignity.

(6.) The *Tazi* referred to is not the Vizir of that name, but an "*Adel*," a Notary, *Abbas Tazi*, who was much employed by the Cadi. He has been sent to Morocco, but it is not certain that he is in prison.

In connection with the deposition of *Mulaï Ismail* for the reason given in my other Memorandum, it may be mentioned that the Sultan's brother, *Mulaï Ali*, was executed years ago in consequence of some one (perhaps a madman) having ejaculated at public prayer in the Mosque, "*May God give victory to Mulaï Ali*," the phrase by which a Sultan is proclaimed.

G. DE VISMES DE PONTTHIEU.

No. 228.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 17.)

(No. 108. Confidential.)
My Lord,

I HAD the honour to report, by telegraph, to your Lordship on the 8th instant that the Shereef of Wazan had left for Oran in the French steamer, avowedly for the purpose of proceeding to Tuat, whither, as it was rumoured, he had been summoned by the tribes in that district, over whom he is said to possess great influence, in order

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Tangier, December 9, 1891.

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that they might benefit by his advice in connection with the contemplated French occupation of that Oasis.

I have caused such inquiries as were possible to be made regarding the accuracy of the statement that the Shereef is actually proceeding in person to Tuat. His confidential adviser undoubtedly gave out that this was his intention; but, if so, I doubt whether he will carry it into execution.

He is in a very weak state of health, and could ill bear the fatigue of the journey; and it is more probable that he will remain somewhere in the immediate vicinity of the coast, and communicate, if he is to do so, with the tribes by letter or messenger.

The rumour that he has left Morocco with the especial intention of proceeding to Tuat has, however, obtained a certain amount of general credence, and has, in public opinion, accentuated the differences which are known to exist between the French Government and His Highness the Sultan regarding this matter.

If the Sultan is induced to give it credence, it will further embitter the feeling with which he is known to regard the attitude taken up by the French in reference to the Tuat Oasis.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

No. 229.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 19.)

(No. 109. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 10, 1891.

THE question regarding Tuat is, I find, exciting so much interest in the various Legations here, that I venture to submit the following observations thereon for your Lordship's consideration. I have the less hesitation in doing this at so early a date after my arrival here, as I note that the contingency contemplated in your Lordship's Confidential telegram to Sir Clare Ford No. 7 of the 13th November, 1891, has now arisen. Your Lordship therein stated that should the Sultan of Morocco spontaneously make an appeal to the Treaty Powers regarding this question, its aspect as hitherto existing would be changed. The letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, forwarded with Mr. White's despatch No. 102 of the 24th ultimo, undoubtedly contains such an appeal.

The crux of that particular side of the question which is presented by the insistence of the French Government on their right to inflict punishment upon the Touareg and other tribes for criminal acts committed by them against certain Frenchmen who have been either murdered or plundered within the limits or in the vicinity of the Tuat Oases: and by that put forward by the Sultan of Morocco, who declares that it is his indisputable right to inflict such punishment on these tribes, whom he claims as his own subjects, lies in the simple fact that His Shereefian Majesty is wholly powerless under any conceivable circumstances to carry out any punitive measures whatever in those far distant regions.

If, therefore, the right to claim compensation and to insist upon punishment for murders or robberies committed on French subjects venturing unauthorizedly, and without sufficient protection into savage countries, and amid lawless tribes (a right which it may be remembered was never claimed by us on the occasion of the murders of Davison and others) be conceded to the French Government, the Sultan must be prepared, consistently with his claim to the sovereignty over the countries in which these events have taken place, to grant full compensation to the injured parties in the first instance, and to bind himself to use every endeavour to bring the criminals to justice.

Though, at the same time, it would be very necessary for His Majesty to endeavour to procure some sort of official recognition as to his future irresponsibility regarding the lives and property of travellers entering similar savage districts save with his permission and under his protection.

These considerations, however, cannot be regarded as of any great importance, for it may be taken as certain that any demands for justice and for compensation for ascertained injuries now put forward by the French Government are merely intended to cover ulterior views, and that the Government of the Republic would not be satisfied or withdraw their claim to enter the Tuat Oases by the payment of any amount of compensation however large. If this surmise be correct, the question seems to be one of a certain gravity.

However unimportant the actual and simple territorial question of Tuat may at the present moment be considered on account of the inaccessibility of that province, its occupation by the French Government in direct opposition to the wish of the Sultan of Morocco, and in face of the admission tacitly made in their own official Map published so late as 1884 that the Tuat and adjoining oases were altogether outside the Algerian frontier, might be made to serve as a dangerous precedent for other Powers, and would be certainly regarded at the Shereefian Court as the first step towards the dismemberment of the Moroccan Empire, and this danger would be but little lessened even if the Sultan were induced by friendly representations to consent to the French occupation.

It may be taken for granted that M. Hélonis, the Dragoman of the French Legation (the main object of whose present mission to the Court at Fez was reported in Mr. White's despatch No. 104 of the 2nd instant), will use his best endeavour to bring about a result so gratifying to his Government. But even if he be successful, a dangerous precedent would be just as much established as if a forcible occupation of the territory by the French were to take place.

Other countries might make similar demands, and the Sultan of Morocco is not in a position to give to one and to withhold from another of the European Powers who seek territorial aggrandisement at his expense.

On the other hand, the Tangier Agent for Foreign Affairs, Cid Mohammed Torres, who visited me yesterday, assures me that the Sultan of Morocco is very determined regarding the question of Tuat; that he will on no account cede his rights in deference to French desires, and that he is now awaiting the result of his appeal to the Signatory Powers of the note of 1887 before taking further action.

I earnestly advised the Minister to warn the Sultan to be very careful how he issued any orders that might result in bringing about an actual collision with the French authorities on the frontier, though at the same time he should encourage the loyalty of those tribes who had always really recognized his sovereign authority. It must be acknowledged, however, that the continued utterances in the French press regarding Tuat combined with such incidents as the sudden departure of the Shereef of Wazan for Algiers for the supposed purpose of pushing French interests in Tuat in opposition to those of His Shereefian Majesty, must keep the Sultan and his advisers in a continual state of alarm and irritation.

The Sultan might under these influences, and stimulated by the promptings of religious fanaticism, possibly be tempted to take or to order some step of a character openly hostile to France, and so afford a colourable pretext for retaliation by their occupation of some much more accessible portion of the Moroccan Empire than the far distant Oasis of Tidikelt. This possibility seems to constitute a very real danger.

If the French Government could only be induced to formulate their actual demands as to Tuat in writing, the question would then come within the compass of diplomatic discussion, and this immediate danger would be averted; while if such discussion could also be made to result in a formal demarcation, and, if necessary, in a rectification of the present unsatisfactory and ill-defined frontier between Algeria and Morocco, the present state of affairs would be productive of real lasting benefit.

I have not considered it necessary in this despatch to dilate upon the injury to British trade that, as is stated, would result from the French occupation of Tuat, as forming a complete barrier to British trade between Timbuctoo, Senegal, and the Oasis at Ghadames, in Tripoli. The extent of such trade is, as far as I am aware, not accurately known; and the probable extent of any French occupation of Tuat is at present undetermined.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

No. 230.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 17.)

(No. 111. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 11, 1891.

I HAVE called Mr. White's attention to the statement made to your Lordship by Count Hatzfeldt as to his conversation regarding the supposed French designs on

Ghadames, which formed the subject of your Lordship's despatch to Sir Edward Malet No. 277, Secret, of the 17th ultimo.

Mr. White informs me that there has evidently been a misunderstanding on the part of either the German Minister or of the Italian Chargé d'Affaires.

The only mention made by Mr. White, to either of those gentlemen, of Ghadames was that, as the caravan road from that place to the Western Soudan passes through Tidikelt, the effect that a French occupation of that Oasis would produce on the trade with those regions would be more serious than appeared at first sight, for the only trade route free from French influence across the Western Sahara that would then remain open to trade would be that by Zaidouf, in the Soos.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

No. 231.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 21.)

(No. 18.)

(Telegraphic.)

Tangier, December 21, 1891.

WITH reference to the telegram from your Lordship No. 10 of the 11th instant, I have the honour to report that separate but identic notes were handed to Hadj Mohammed Torres on Saturday, the 19th instant, by myself and the Italian and Spanish Ministers.

No. 232.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 66.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 21, 1891.

I APPROVE your proceedings in connection with your arrival and reception at Tangier, as reported in your despatch No. 105 of the 5th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 233.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 67.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1891.

I APPROVE the language which you held to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of Tuat, as reported in your despatch No. 109 of the 10th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 234.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 24.)

(No. 113.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 18, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, the copy of a Circular which I have addressed to the Consular officers under my jurisdiction, with a view to insuring that the Rules applicable to the granting of British protection to natives of Morocco may, as far as possible, continue to be enforced with the greatest care and stringency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

Inclosure in No. 234.

Copy of Circular addressed by Sir C. Euan-Smith to Consular Officers in Morocco.

Sir,

Tangier, December 18, 1891.

AS I have been informed from various sources that there have unfortunately been cases in which the rights accorded to foreign merchants by Articles IX and X of the Madrid Convention to employ semsars and agents have from one cause or another been abused, I am anxious that every precaution be taken to prevent the possibility of such abuses arising in the case of the employés of British subjects.

It is difficult for me here to decide as to the *bona fides* of applications for semsars or agents made by merchants residing at a distance, and I am compelled in a great measure to rely upon the co-operation of the Consular officers, whose duty it is, by inquiries on the spot, to ascertain whether or not the export and import business of the various merchants entitles them to obtain the certificates for which they may apply for persons so employed, and whether these persons are of good character and have not exposed themselves to either civil or criminal process at the hands of the Moorish authorities.

You will be good enough, at as early a date as possible, to transmit to me complete lists of the semsars and agents required by merchants residing in your district, limiting their number to those who are strictly required for the purposes of their trade and in strict accordance with existing Regulations, and bearing in mind that these lists, which are made on your own responsibility, must be most carefully drawn up, and that lists of (1) semsars and (2) agents ("Mukhalata") should be drawn up in English and Arabic, and should contain *all the names in full* of the persons employed, the district they reside in, and the designation of their employment. Four copies should be sent of each list, of which two will be returned to you after approval; one you will keep at your Consular Office, and the other you will deliver to the Governor of the town. Of the remaining lists, one will be filed in this Office, and the other delivered to Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres.

On receipt of the new certificates, you should be careful to recover all the expired certificates, and return them to me for cancellation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

No. 235.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 26.)

(No. 114.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 19, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, the French text of the note which, in accordance with the instructions conveyed by your Lordship's telegram No. 10 of the 11th instant, I have to-day addressed and caused to be delivered to Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres, in reply to his note of the 18th ultimo, the translation of which was communicated to your Lordship in Mr. White's despatch No. 102 of the 24th ultimo.

Identic, or nearly identic, notes have at the same time been handed to Hadj Mohammed Torres by my colleagues, the Ministers of Italy and Spain.

As my Italian colleague appeared to attach great importance to the insertion of the names of Gourara and Tidikelt in common with that of Tuat, as indicating the exact extent of the sphere over which France claims to exercise influence, I submitted his proposal to your Lordship's consideration, and having received your Lordship's authority to that effect, I made the addition advocated by Signor Cantagalli in the inclosed note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

Inclosure in No. 235.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(French text.)

(Après les compliments d'usage.)

Tanger, le 19 Décembre, 1891

(17 Jumadi I, 1309).

J'AI reçu la lettre que votre Excellence m'a adressée par ordre du Sultan en date du 15 Rabi II (18 Novembre) pour m'informer que le Ministre de France, M. Patenôtre, avait notifié officiellement au Sultan qu'il est dans l'intention de son Gouvernement de punir les habitants de Touat, Gourara, et Tidikelt pour l'assassinat du Colonel Flatters et d'autres personnes, et qu'il avait invité Sa Majesté à s'abstenir de toute intervention dans les affaires de ces pays. Cette lettre récapitulait les raisons en vertu desquelles Sa Majesté Chérifienne affirme que les habitants de ces oasis sont du nombre des populations sujettes du Sultan; elle déclarait en outre que Sa Majesté Chérifienne ne saurait consentir à ce que le Gouvernement Français exerçât une juridiction quelconque sur les habitants des oasis susmentionnées.

Conformément au désir exprimé par votre Excellence j'ai communiqué sa lettre au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté mon auguste Souverain et j'en ai reçu l'ordre de faire savoir au Sultan que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté est d'avis que Sa Majesté Chérifienne devrait inviter le Gouvernement Français à préciser les raisons sur lesquelles il se fonde et d'après lesquelles il se croit justifié à avancer des prétentions sur les Oasis de Touat, Gourara, et Tidikelt comme s'il s'agissait de territoires Français.

No. 236.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 26.)

(No. 115.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 19, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a cutting from the newspaper "Réveil du Maroc" of the 16th instant, regarding the North-West African Company at Cape Juby.

As this newspaper, which belongs to a French subject, has long been regarded as inspired by the French Legation, it is quite possible that the French Chargé d'Affaires, M. Souhart, who, since his arrival here, has manifested great activity in every direction, may have prompted the commencement of a discussion on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

Inclosure in No. 236.

Extract from the "Réveil du Maroc" of December 16, 1891.

UNE note qui a fait le tour de la presse Française ces jours-ci dément que les Anglais veuillent abandonner le Cap Juby.

A Tanger on n'a jamais ni dit ni pensé un instant qu'il pût être question d'une pareille éventualité. Bien au contraire, nous croyons savoir que le Directeur de la "North West African Company," Mr. Mackenzie, caresse l'espoir de voir bientôt octroyer une Charte Royale pour sa Société, qui tiendrait à créer sur la côte où elle s'est installée un État analogue à celui qu'a réalisé la "North Borneo."

Mais ici se dresse la Convention Anglo-Française de 1890 relative aux zones d'influence en Afrique. Puisque l'Angleterre a reconnu à la France la partie que l'on sait, elle ne saurait guère octroyer une Charte à la Société du Cap Juby, sans violer l'esprit de la dite Convention.

Il semble donc que l'assentiment préalable de la France doive ici entrer en ligne de compte.

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No. 237.

Consul-General Sir L. Playfair to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 26.)

(No. 8.)

My Lord,

Algiers, December 23, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Shereef of Wazan has arrived at Algiers, and has been lodged by the Government General in a villa at Mustapha Supérieur.

His "sincère amitié pour la France" is exhibited by his appearing in public in the uniform of a French General.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. LAMBERT PLAYFAIR.

No. 238.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 29.)

(No. 117.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 21, 1891.

WITH reference to Mr. White's despatch No. 95 of the 29th October last, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that a local paper of yesterday published a letter from its Fez correspondent, asserting that M. Helonis, the Dragoman of the French Legation, at present at the Court, had presented to the Sultan, by direction of his Government, a note claiming compensation for the Mehaïa tribe for damages suffered at the hands of the Oulad-el-Hadj tribe, and basing French support of the claim on the grounds that the Mehaïa tribe had obtained French protection.

As it is likely that this article will be quoted by European journals, and as the action therein ascribed to the French Government was totally at variance with the language held by the French Chargé d'Affaires to Mr. White, as reported in this above-mentioned despatch, I directed Mr. White to call upon M. Souhart, and ascertain whether there was any truth in this article.

Mr. White saw M. Souhart this morning, and drew his attention to the article in question. M. Souhart replied that he had already seen it, and was much annoyed by it, as there was absolutely no foundation to it.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

No. 239.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 29.)

(No. 119.)

My Lord,

Tangier, December 23, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, two extracts from the "Eco Mauritano" of the 19th instant (translation annexed), giving further details as to the activity of the French in the direction of Tuat and the neighbouring oases.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. B. EUAN-SMITH.

Inclosure in No. 239.

Extracts from "El Eco Mauritano" of December 19, 1891.

(Translation.)

The "Eco de Oran" says:—

"In consequence of a robbery of cattle from Sihamza, the religious Chief of the tribe of the Auled Sidi Cheik left for Gonrara with the object of attracting to the French cause the turbulent natives who have taken refuge at Timmermoun and Deldoum (the capital of Tuat and Gonrara).

"Sihamza has returned, accompanied by eighteen black Chiefs, according to orders of the Dismamas (*sic in orig.*).

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"The same Sihamza says that he could not reach Gonrara through El Goleah, being prevented by the sands of the desert, and the road of the great Erg being no more practicable, but that he conferred with Bou-Amema, and was able to assure that all the Chiefs of Gonrara belonging to the family of the Ouid Sidi Cheik are disposed to recognize the authority of France.

"If this is correct, then have our neighbours already secured the entrance of Tuat."

(Translation.)

"Judging from some letters and papers of Oran, the French have already made their advance into Tuat."

No. 240.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 69.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1891.

I APPROVE the Circular addressed to the Consular Officers under your jurisdiction in regard to British protection to natives of Morocco, a copy of which is inclosed in your despatch No. 113 of the 18th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 241.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 70.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1891.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 114 of the 19th instant, inclosing copy of the note which, in concert with your Italian and Spanish colleagues, you have addressed to Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres, respecting the claim of the French Government to exercise influence over the districts of Touat, Gourara, and Tidikelt.

The terms of the note are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 242.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir C. Euan-Smith.

(No. 71.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1891.

I HAVE to request that before making final arrangements for proceeding to the Court of Morocco on your appointment as Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, you will submit a list of the persons whom you propose to take, together with an estimate of the cost likely to be incurred.

The numbers and cost of the Mission should be kept within moderate limits.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 243.

Foreign Office to Treasury.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1891.

IN accordance with the usual practice in conducting important negotiations affecting the interests of this country in Morocco, the Marquis of Salisbury found it necessary to instruct Sir W. K. Green, Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, to proceed last year to the city of Morocco, in order to settle, by personal communication with the Sultan, urgent questions at issue between the British and Moorish Governments.

Sir W. K. Green represented, in reporting his proceedings, that in view of the delicate state of his health (partial paralysis) it was essential that he should be accompanied by his wife, daughter, and two other ladies to assist in nursing, and the Lords of the Treasury are no doubt aware that he succumbed to the illness from which he was suffering while conducting negotiations in the city of Morocco.

Apart, however, from Sir W. K. Green's state of health, Lord Salisbury is of opinion that the general rules laid down in your letter of the 15th December, 1890, respecting the expenses of ladies accompanying a special Mission, cannot be applied to the case of Her Majesty's Representative at Tangier proceeding to the Moorish capital.

The scale of expenditure incurred on this occasion does not exceed that of the last special Mission to the Moorish Court in 1887-88, since the former Mission, which lasted for seventy-five days, cost 850*l.*, as compared with 1,260*l.* for the latter Mission, which lasted about 112 days.

I am accordingly to request that you will move the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to sanction the expenses incurred, amounting to 1,259*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, made up as follows:—

Allowances, as on previous occasions, to—

	£	s.	d.
Five officers*	..	..	337 12 0
Wages ..	..	..	219 8 1
Gratuities to escort and attendants ..	..	..	304 14 0
Travelling expenses, provisions, and camp equipage ..	..	..	398 1 5

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 244.

Sir C. Euan-Smith to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received December 30, 9-30 P.M.)

(No. 19.)

(Telegraphic. P.)

Tangier, December 30, 1891.

TRIBES round Tangier have revolted against the authority of the Tangier Pasha. Rebellion becoming very general and even assuming serious dimensions. Tribes are forming a camp at distance of about three hours from the town; an armed descent upon the town is talked of. Much excitement. Presence of man-of-war would be desirable in Tangier harbour for some little time to come.

No. 245.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

Sir

Foreign Office, December 31, 1891.

A TELEGRAM has been received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, reporting that a rebellion of the tribes in the neighbourhood of Tangier has broken out and is becoming serious, that a camp has been formed at about three hours' distance, and that there is a talk of an armed descent upon the town. In consequence of the excitement which prevails, Sir C. Euan-Smith recommends that a man-of-war should be sent to Tangier, and should remain there for some little time.

I am directed by Lord Salisbury to ask whether the Lords of the Admiralty can give instructions for a ship to proceed at once to Tangier in accordance with Sir C. Euan-Smith's request.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

* Mr. de Vismes de Ponthieu, Vice-Consul; Mr. John Kirby Green, Private Secretary; Surgeon-Major Charlesworth, one Interpreter, one Arabic scribe.